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THE NECESSITY FOR MUTUAL COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE COLLEGES AND THE PRACTITIONER*

SIR FREDERICK HOBDAY, C.M.G., F.R.C.V.S.

First, let me say what great pleasure it gave me again to receive an invitation to meet the members of the Mid-West Division of the "National," as I have still very vivid recollections of your kindly courtesy and cordial friendship on the last occasion that I visited you, when you did me the honour to elect me as an Honorary Member.

The question of a title for an address required some selection, and I thought that, as the subject of the providing of the details for the rebuilding and reconstruction of a veterinary college has been one which has been occupying my mind for several years, and as we have also been through a very critical fight (which, had it been a failure, would have had a very serious effect upon the supply of qualified veterinary surgeons to the country), the title "The Necessity for Mutual Collaboration between the Colleges and the Practitioner" would not be inappropriate.

These two, *i.e.*, the colleges and the practitioner, are indissolubly connected together; they are literally the *alpha* and the *omega* of the veterinary profession, for the veterinary colleges are essential as the training ground to start the student on the career into which he eventually emerges as the fully-fledged practitioner. The practitioner is still, and always has been, the backbone of the profession, and for the production and maintenance of the practitioner the veterinary colleges have been a necessity ever since the profession became a profession, and an essential help from the commencement of a graduate's career.

It is at college that the student gains—much more so than it used to be in the days when I was a pupil—the first impression of the profession into which he is about to enter; and it is in respect of this first impression that the value of the colleges is demonstrated, not only from the purely academic aspect but also in regard to the points of view of professional etiquette and social life which are so essential to the making of a successful professional career in after life.

What, to be ideal, should be the essentials of the academic teaching centre of the profession? I take it that, in order to do justice to the object for which they exist—*i.e.*, the education of the student—a teaching school should be adequately provided with facilities for teaching properly, both in regard to buildings and equipment, and also in regard to staff; and these facilities must especially include properly-equipped laboratories and hospital quarters in the work of which the students are allowed to take full and proper part. Here, in particular, lies the advantage of the judicious combination of the clinical with the purely academic; and the attachment of a *clientèle* by those who pay as subscribers (in addition to those who are treated in a poor out-patient clinic) is a very advantageous adjunct as a teaching asset. Here the student has the opportunity of using his powers of observation, not only for purposes of diagnosis but also in regard to the treatment of the client—a most essential point in veterinary practice, as, without the goodwill of the client, the veterinary surgeon is quite unable to obtain his patients.

Now let us consider what help the colleges can still be to the practitioner after graduation. In fully 50 per cent. or 60 per cent. of instances the recommendation of the new graduate for a salaried post is made by someone on the staff of the colleges, as the teacher who associates with his students soon learns to recognise the adaptable powers and general ability of each individual under his care, and this is why he is asked to piece together two congenial souls. In this way I know you will admit that the veterinary colleges *do* help the practitioner, but even before that time has arrived the student and the practitioner have probably already come into contact as master and pupil during the vacations. If the relationship has been a satisfactory one on the first occasion when they have been brought together, then the student will be wisely advised to return (if allowed) to the same practice for at least a second or third vacation.

The fact that the Fifth Year student is not now to be allowed to present himself for the Final Examination until he has produced satisfactory evidence that he has seen practice for a minimum period of six months, during which time he must have seen at least six cases of parturition amongst the larger animals, acts for mutual advantage if only the parties agree.

* An address given before the members of the Mid-West and South Wales Division of the National Veterinary Medical Association, at Bath, May 5th, 1933.

DEPT. OF VET. MEDICINE

Here I should like to " interpolate " a letter which reached one of my colleagues a few days ago, and which illustrates, in quite a typical manner, the practitioner's pleasure and the mutual advantage to be gained by both when a practitioner has found a good pupil. Speaking of two of his pupils, a veterinary surgeon writes:—

" H— is a great lad, a real gentleman, and a ' thorough ' fellow in every way; I can see a great future for him. He is awfully interested in his work, and is gifted with brains. Of course, it is rather hard to know how exactly to talk to a ' C ' man without forgetting that to him the pathology of a case is of more importance than the ' treatment of the client,' and on that account I have asked him to come along again when in ' D,' when perhaps the clinical aspect will interest him more and I will not be afraid of showing him that aspect of the cases. But, whether he comes or not, I can really say that he is a splendid fellow."

" As for G—, what a wonderful character he is! His one failing is that he's too keen. Not only is he a worker at his books but also on his cases, and he cannot understand my swearing when cases come in at 9 o'clock after a busy day!"

Students fresh from college are literally mines of theoretical and practical information, and the practitioner who will take a pupil need never fear the failure of a *quid pro quo*. The opportunity to brighten one's brain by discussing college theories, and thus, without very much effort, to be brought up to date in the theory of the work, is one which is not given to every profession, but it exists in ours to a remarkable extent. The pathological aspect of diseases, the college theories and the endeavour to fit them in with the actual work, all add to the friendly relationship between the veterinary colleges and the practitioner: and in regard to other things—to whom do the thoughts of the graduate turn when in trouble with a puzzling case? First and foremost, as a general rule, to his *Alma Mater* and his former teachers, from whom he is always sure of a sympathetic response and a desire to render the help asked for.

That he *can*, and *does* do this, is well illustrated by the large numbers of interesting cases and *post-mortem* specimens which reach the respective hospital or laboratory departments every week.

He may send some purely for his own benefit either to make or confirm a diagnosis, but a very large supply is sent up wholly and solely because of a wish to benefit the student; or with the desire that it may perhaps find a place, as an interesting specimen, with his name attached as the donor, in the College Museum.

It is this spirit of mutual exchange of courtesies which is calculated, more than any other, to advance professional knowledge; for not only does it supply the teacher with practical material for demonstration to his students, but the authoritative opinion on which a college setting gives, forms a very useful backing to the diagnosis already made by the practitioner to his client. Even if adverse, it has its lessons and there can be no " letting down " or loss of dignity, as, by our laws of professional etiquette in our dealings with one another, the client can only be informed through the medium of the practitioner at whose instigation it was sent to the consultant.

The colleges are just as much aware of their dependence upon the practitioner for this collaboration as the practitioner is aware of the value of having the college behind him when requiring specialised help; and, as particular instances, one has only to mention such things as the expert tests necessitated for poisons or for tuberculous milk; the diagnosis of tumours or other diseased tissues in regard to their malignancy or otherwise; certain microscopical diagnoses, such as those for parasites or their ova, the testing of blood, urine, fæces, etc.

In Surgery, in Medicine, and indeed in every branch, there are on the staffs of the colleges men who have become authorities on specialised subjects, and whose help is always readily and freely given; and it is to the mutual advantage of the animal patients and their owners that this mutual collaboration between the colleges and the practitioner should be obtainable. The legal aspect, too, must not be forgotten, and all of us have at some time or other realised the moral support which a college authority can give to the practitioner. Money is not everything, and there are still many men who make it a pleasure and a duty to give work and time to ease the lot of the suffering animal world, and to aid in the efforts to control and prevent the spread of disease. You yourselves all know this full well, and, in conclusion, it seems to need no emphasis to say that this collaboration between the colleges and the practitioner is not only essential for the well-being of the profession, but an absolute necessity for its permanent progress and for the welfare of the nation.

So far as the London college is concerned, we have nothing to complain about in this respect. We get all kinds of animals sent in by practitioners and our Poor Out-Patient Department alone averages about 12,000 patients annually—mostly, of course, horses and dogs: and these cases included, in last year's clinique, 84 castrations of the horse alone and over 1,200 abdominal operations on the bitch and cat.

If I ask your help at all it is to say that we should like more of the purely farm animals —cattle, sheep and pigs—than we get. And now that we have nearly completed our cattle accommodation and have an ambulance in prospect, we shall be able to cater more for them, too.

Finally, the ideal for the student, who is the veterinary surgeon of the future, is (as it was in my days) for his college career compulsorily

to include a period of time (every vacation, at least) in country practice. This will give him at least twelve months' invaluable experience during his college course alone, and will prove a most excellent foundation upon which to build his ultimate career. It is in this point in particular that, for mutual advantage and for the general welfare of the profession, there is found (as expressed in the title of my address) the necessity for mutual collaboration between the college and the practitioner.

THE MECHANICS OF BALANCE (DENTAL) IN THE LOWER ANIMALS

J. F. D. Tutt, f.r.c.v.s.,
Winchester

In a paper entitled "The Mechanics of Balance in Dental Prosthesis," which he read before the American Dental Society of Europe, Hugh W. MacMillan, m.d., d.d.s., f.a.c.d., makes the following references to the domestic animals, together with the accompanying two sketches to illustrate his points:—

He shows that anatomically it is impossible for the teeth of the lower animals to assume the relationship of bilateral balanced occlusion. In the case of the pig, the movement of the mandible is orthal (see *Journal of Morphology*, September, 1889, Vol. 3, No. 2, p. 226. E. D. Cope). There is no protrusion, no retrusion, no lateral movement; hence there is no "bilateral balance" nor three-point contact.

The characteristics of the carnivorous animals are hinged articulation, orthal type of excursion, no protrusion, no lateral movement, no "bilateral balance," no three-point contact.

In the ox (Fig. I) there are no maxillary incisors, no canines, no three-point contact. The excursion of the jaw is of the ental type. When the teeth of the working side are in functional relationship, the teeth of the idle side are several millimetres apart, making "bilateral balance" or even bilateral contact impossible.

The narrow mandible of the horse (Fig. 2), with its ectal type of excursion, admits of no "bilateral balance."

In the rabbit, characterised by an antero-posterior excursion (proal), the molars are far apart when the edges of the incisors come into occlusion. The great difference in the width of the upper and lower jaws makes it anatomically impossible for the rabbit to chew on both sides at once. "Bilateral balance" and three-point contact are impossible in the rodent.

The elephant, exhibiting the palinal type of masticatory excursion, has no mandibular incisors, cuspids, or bicuspids; hence no three-point contact. Due to the peculiar eruption of the molars, the wearing of the anterior molar out of occlusion, the arrangement of the teeth,

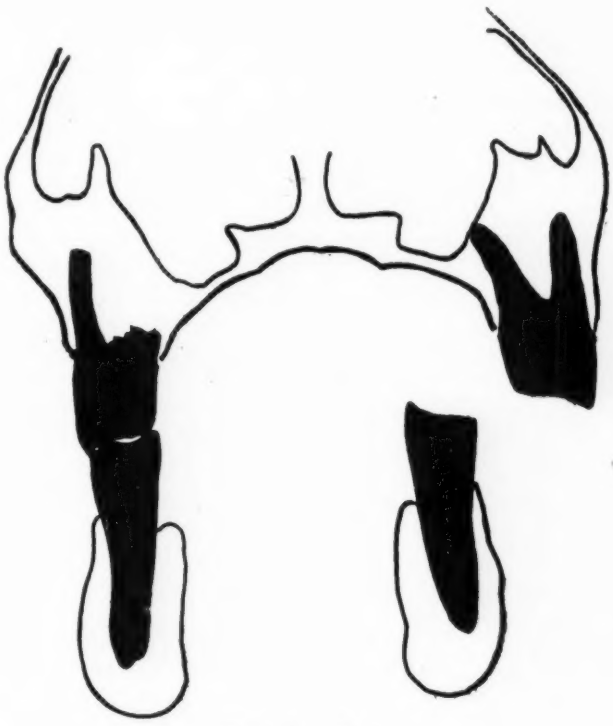

Fig. 1. Ox.

Unilateral balance in the Ox. The movement of the lower jaw from within outward carries the molars of the opposite side, known in man as the molars of the balancing side, still farther apart.

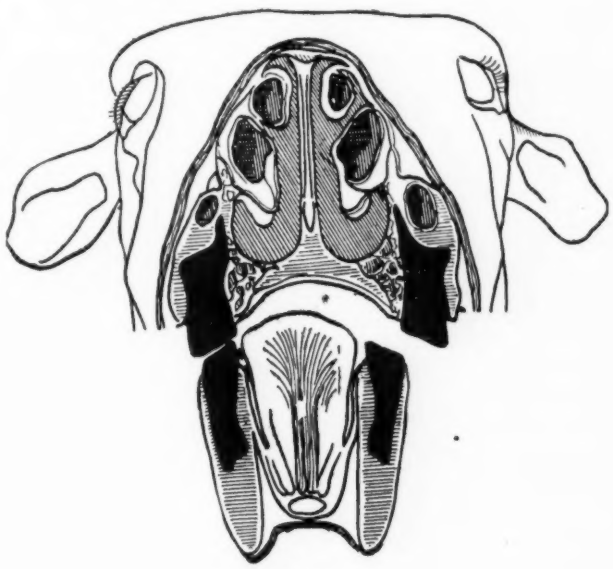

Fig. 2. Horse.

Diagram showing that, in the horse, bilateral balance is impossible during mastication. Unilateral balance is the state of equilibrium, produced by the muscles of mastication, which enables each half of the lower jaw to function independently of the other half so far as any support from the teeth of the opposite side is concerned.

and the postero-anterior movement of the mandible, there is no " bilateral balance."

Dr. MacMillan claims that there is no proof that " bilateral balance " and " three-point contact " are of any physiological significance, or that they afford any mechanical aid to masticating. On the other hand, there is a wealth of evidence indicating that mastication is, fundamentally, a unilateral process. In the lower animals, the muscles of mastication of each side work independently of those of the opposite side, in so far as any " balancing " assistance from the teeth of the opposite side is concerned.

In an article entitled " Unilateral *v.* Bilateral Balanced Occlusion," Dr. MacMillan (*Journal of the American Dental Association*, Vol. xvii, July, 1930, pp. 1207-1221) discusses the various types of masticatory excursion of the lower animals.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF VETERINARY SURGEONS

Membership Examination, July, 1933

LIST OF SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES

(*Continued from page* 728.)

DUBLIN.

Class A.

FOUR YEARS' COURSE

Drought, C. S.
Harris, A. S.
Heney, J. W.
†O'Brien, F. N.
Redmond, P. G.

FIVE YEARS' COURSE

†Barry, J. T.
†Cooper, P. J.
Fallon, J. A.
Hart, F. C.
Hayes, Patrick.
McAleer, James.
McCarthy, M. F.
†O'Reilly, M. J.

Class B.

Byrne, M. J.
Considine, P. J.
†Joyce, William.
McIlhargey, L.
O'Hagan, J. J.
O'Sullivan, K.
Powell, R. J.
Purcell, Philip.
Quigley, Hugh.
Spears, H. N.
Sweetman, L.
Waldron, A.
Walsh, J. J.

Class C.

Magnier, C. E.
O'Connor, J. D.
Power, R. J.
Sheehy, J. R.
Walsh, Walter.

Class D.

Byrne, M. T. G.
Healy, M. M.
Peatt, C. M.
Pilkington, C. J.
Seton, A. D.
Sweeney, J. S.

† Denotes Second Class Honours.

GLASGOW.

Class A.

FOUR YEARS' COURSE

Dunn, J. D.
Marsden, R. A. L.
McCorquodale, R.
Milligan, J. B.
Munro, D. J.

FIVE YEARS' COURSE

†Birrell, John.
Brown, H. M.
Fraser, A. K.
Harrison, Thomas.
Hunter, W. K.
Knight, Mrs. J.
Macaulay, D. J.
McClelland, H. A.
Macdonald, John.
McFarlane, David.
Merry, A. O.
Pevie, W. G. G.
Shinnie, Miss M. M.
Sime, Miss E. M.
Taylor, J. G.
Wharrier, John.
Wilson, Andrew.
Wilson, S. G.

Class B.

†Aitken, R. N. C.
Barr, T. F. F.
†Bolton, James.
†Brooksby, J. B.
Cochram, D. M.
Fyfe, A. M.
Geddes, James.
†Hill, F. J.
Howie, David.
Jackson, T. A.
Kerr, J. R.
Leslie, V. J. S.
Logan, J. L.
MacKinnon, John.
McGrath, R. E.
†Moodie, David.
†Murdoch, J. J.
Oliphant, Miss J. A.
Paterson, J. D.
Service, Q. M.
Smellie, J. B.
Thomson, R. H.
Turkington, Hugh.
Wilson, William.
†Wyper, D. W.

Class C.

†Briggs, George.
Currie, J. B.
Greig, H. B.
Macnab, Edward.
McCann, P. J.
McGreevy, J. G.
McIntyre, D. M.
McLintock, John.
Mitchell, Robert.
Ross, W. D.
Thomson, J. K.

Class D.

Briscoe, T. P.
Brown, J. A.
Chapman, Alexander.
Gowans, W. A.
Harkness, David.
Macaulay, J. W.
Martin, William.
Mitchell, Miss H. J.
Somervail, Miss M. L.
Steele, Archibald.

† Denotes Second Class Honours.

YORK TATTOO MISHAP

A Northern Command announcement states that an accident which occurred during the ride of the 3rd (King's Own) Hussars at the York Tattoo on July 13th resulted in the loss of two horses.

At the time the accident took place it appeared that one of the colliding horses had sustained concussion and the other an injured shoulder. Both horses appeared to recover and seemed to be going on well; later on, however, after midnight, both horses collapsed and died of shock.

Every possible care was taken of the horses after the accident by an officer of the Royal Army Veterinary Corps, who is always present in the arena during performances.

Clinical Communications

HYPOCALCÆMIA (?) IN A EWE

G. S. MUIR, B.V.SC., M.R.C.V.S.

The subject, a cross-bred ewe, had produced twin lambs three weeks before and had nourished them well, but was found lying in the field one morning, unable to rise. Later in the day I was called in, and reached the farm late in the afternoon, to find the ewe still alive, but unable to stand if placed on her feet and only able to struggle feebly on the ground.

Her temperature was 102°F., pulse 80 and fairly strong; respirations were even and fairly strong; she had not defæcated nor passed urine since first seen in the morning.

Treatment.—Half-an-ounce of calcium Sandoz and one ounce glucose, in 250 c.c. of water, sterilised and filtered through muslin, were injected into the jugular vein.

In a few moments the ewe got up and walked away, after having passed fæces and a little urine, and appeared almost normal, calling to her lambs, etc., but her gait was still somewhat unsteady. One-and-a-half ounces calcium Sandoz and two ounces glucose, dissolved in one-and-a-half pints of water, were left, with instructions to give half-pint doses by mouth every six hours.

Seen again two days later, the ewe was down again, but quite bright and able to feed, although unable to stand. A further half-ounce calcium Sandoz in 200 c.c. of water was given, into the jugular vein, and she was able to walk immediately after the injection. From that time she recovered and was returned to the flock in the pasture a day or two later.

The owner had lost five ewes within a short period before this one fell ill, in each case finding them dead in the morning, but having observed no symptoms the night before, and one wonders whether a common cause may have been responsible for all the cases. The flock was supplied with minerals and salt after this case and no further trouble was reported.

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EPIDURAL ANÆSTHESIA FOR SHEEP

G. S. MUIR, B.V.SC., M.R.C.V.S.

Epidural anæsthesia in cases of prolapse of the vagina, and in dystokia, in the ewe is of the greatest assistance, inhibiting all the straining at the time of operation and often ensuring success in cases of prolapse which might otherwise be most troublesome, if not incurable.

The procedure is essentially the same as in the cow—a depression is found between the vertebral joints at the base of the tail and a hypodermic needle of not too large calibre can be easily inserted into the epidural space. The dose is about 4 c.c. of "Parsetic," or any reliable local anæsthetic, and the effect lasts for several hours.

Abstracts

[**Swine Influenza. I.—Experimental Transmission and Pathology.** Shope, R. E. (1931.) *J. Exp. Med.* 54. 349-359.

Swine Influenza. II.—A Hæmophilic Bacillus from the Respiratory Tract of Infected Swine. Lewis, P. A., and Shope, R. E. *Ibid.* 361-371.

Swine Influenza. III.—Filtration Experiments and Etiology. Shope, R. E. *Ibid.* 373-385.

Studies on Immunity to Swine Influenza. Shope, R. E. (1932.) *Ibid.* 56. 575-585.]

In 1918, a condition, which received the name of swine "flu," was recognised in the United States of America. [This entity was first described in 1918 by J. S. Koen, of the Bureau of Animal Industry, who suggested that "hog flu" and human influenza were the same. Since that date, many outbreaks of the disease have been reported, but it would appear that its prevalence is now decreasing (Rept. of Committee on Swine Diseases, 1930, *J. Amer. Vet. Med. Ass.*, 29, 354.). Complete descriptions of field outbreaks have been given by Dorset, McBryde and Niles (1932), *J. Amer. Vet. Med. Ass.*, 15, 163; Hastings (1924), *ibid.*, 17, 728; and McBryde (1927), *ibid.*, 24, 368; while in 1928 McBryde, Niles and Moskey, *ibid.*, 26, 331, showed that the causative agent of "hog flu" was regularly present in the nasal secretions, which were capable of conveying infection from sick to healthy pigs. The main characteristics of this disease, which was confined to the winter months and occurred in the form of localised epizootics, were a sharp rise in temperature accompanied by a general malaise, a husky cough and a certain degree of nasal and ocular discharge. The disease was readily passed from affected to healthy animals, usually attacking the whole of a herd, while the morbidity was fairly high, ranging from 4 to over 10 per cent.]

Shope and Lewis have made an extensive study of this entity under experimental conditions and have come to the conclusion that the primary cause is a filterable virus. In the first place, they found that a train of symptoms indistinguishable from the natural disease was induced in experimental pigs by the intra-nasal instillation of suspensions of infected tissues (bronchial exudate, lung, etc.). They also confirmed the field observations that the causal agent was readily transmitted by simple contact. Recovered animals possessed a solid immunity against re-infection.

In the later series of experiments (1932), Shope failed to transmit the disease by intramuscular inoculation, but found that pigs

treated in this manner had acquired an active immunity.

The existence of the virus was proved by the intra-nasal introduction of Berkefeld V or N filtrates prepared from infected lungs, bronchial glands or nasal discharge. A definite contagious disease of a mild character was set up which, although it was not entirely comparable to the natural condition, was regarded as a pure virus infection.

These investigators have also isolated from field cases, an organism which possesses the morphological and cultural characters of *Hæmophilus influenzæ*; they term it *H. influenzæ suis*. Cultures of this organism were practically non-pathogenic, but when they were mixed with the Berkefeld filtrates the association of the two agents induced a severe condition exactly comparable with natural swine influenza. These experiments suggested that the filterable virus was the primary factor and that *H. influenzæ suis* played a contributory rôle: doubtless the introduction of this organism into the body was facilitated by the preliminary action of the virus.

An attack of the filtrate disease, whether induced by intra-nasal injection or by exposure to susceptible animals, conferred an active immunity both to the virus *per se*, and to the association of virus with *H. influenzæ suis*. The serum of recovered animals was also capable of neutralising the virus *in vitro*.

R. E. G.

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[Vaginotomy as a Diagnostic and Therapeutic Aid in Disease Conditions of the Abdomen of the Ox. (Trans. title.) Hoflund, S. (1933.) *Sv. Vet.-tidskr.*, 5, 181-190. 7 refs.]

The author discusses the advantages of vaginotomy, for abdominal palpation, over simple rectal examination. He gives details of seven instances in which vaginotomy was performed either by himself or as recorded in the Clinic Records. [In the details set out below, the following abbreviations have been used: (*a*) S.I. = small intestine; (*b*) L.I. = large intestine; (*c*) P.R. = *per rectum* examination; (*d*) I.-A. = intra-abdominal examination.—Abstr.]

Case 1.—Friesian cow, seven to eight years. Exhibited symptoms of colic. Examination (eight hours after first attacks)—cow standing up; distension of the right flank; percussion gave tympany over S.I. field. P.R. revealed loops of S.I. distended with gas. Vaginotomy performed (no anæsthetic). During exploration the distension by gas was suddenly released and the cow was immediately relieved and recovered uneventfully. No diagnosis was made, but recovery thought to be due to reduction of partial torsion by manipulation.

Case 2.—Cross-bred cow; six years. Examined on February 7th, 1926. Due to calve on March 15th, 1926. Exhibited general symptoms of colic throughout the day. Examination (the same evening)—uneasy; P.R. revealed a distended and tender loop of S.I. just in front of the pelvis. A band, about the thickness of a quill pen, anchored to the upper surface of the uterus, passed forwards, encircled the distended bowel and then apparently turned to the abdominal wall. It was found impossible to break the band or withdraw the imprisoned S.I. Vaginotomy performed (embryotomy knife; no anæsthetic). I.-A. exploration confirmed the condition. The band was broken down at its uterine anchorage, with finger nails. Recovery uneventful. Normal parturition five weeks later.

Case 3.—Cross-bred cow; seven years; mated 14 days previously. In six hours had evinced colicky pains. Examination—very uneasy; percussion revealed tympany over S.I. field. P.R.—rectum empty. S.I. distended with gas and in the lumbar region pushed over to the right. Vaginotomy (scalpel; no anæsthetic). I.-A. exploration detected what appeared to be a band encircling some S.I. After half-an-hour's traction on bowel and mesentery the condition (torsion?) suddenly reduced itself. Uneventful recovery; return to full milk.

Case 4.—Cross-bred cow; five years old; calved 14 days previously. Developed symptoms of colic. Examination (12-15 hours after commencement of illness)—fairly quiet; low down in the right flank was a swelling the size of a man's head. Percussion, S.I. field, gave tympany. P.R.—rectum empty; S.I. distended with gas; owner refused operation. Medical treatment was given for 24 hours, when the condition was rather worse; vaginotomy was consented to and revealed a swelling in course of S.I. the size of clenched fist, on a level with the right flank. Nothing could be done without open operation, and slaughter was carried out. *Post-mortem*—S.I. blue and distended with gas; here and there necrosis of mucous membrane. At the jejuno-ileac junction was a concretion of dry food material. L.I. empty and the mucous membrane overlaid with grey-white slime.

Case 5.—Cow suddenly exhibited symptoms of colic. These subsided after six hours; dulness and inappetence were present for the succeeding eight hours. Examination—stomachic activity suppressed; tympany over S.I. field; P.R. revealed a sausage-shaped swelling 10 cm. long to the right of the mid-line and low down in the abdomen. Vaginotomy (epidural anæsthesia and embryotomy knife)—right hand intra-abdominal, left hand *per rectum*, with plank under rectum, enabled the operator to palpate a "lump"; invagination was diagnosed. Attempts at reduction were unsuccessful. Cow slaughtered; *post-mortem* exposed a 10 cm. long invagination situated about 40 cm. from the

cæcal opening. The serous surfaces were strongly adherent.

Case 6.—Swedish red and white cow; five years old. The previous day the whole herd had been driven three kilometres and 24 hours later symptoms of "colic" developed in this cow. On January 3rd, 1931, at mid-day, the cow was restless; T. 37·6 C., P. 67. General examination was negative, except for suppression of the stomach activity and tympany of abomasum; neither P.R. nor intra-abdominal (after vaginotomy) revealed anything. Next day there was no appetite; the fæces were scanty and hard and covered with mucus; colicky symptoms were still present. On January 5th, 1931, her condition was worse and the cow was slaughtered. *Post-mortem* revealed an invagination 25 cm. long situated 2 cm. from the pylorus; peritonitis was commencing. The inaccessible position rendered diagnosis impossible, especially in the absence of S.I. tympany.

Case 7.—Cow taken suddenly ill with symptoms of dyspnœa; calved four months previously; mated five weeks ago. Examination (four hours after first symptoms): T. 39·9. P. 64, R. 90. There were dyspnœa and grunting. Percussion over S.I. field gave tympany; the rectum was empty, except for dry mucus. P.R. revealed gas-filled S.I.; below and to the right sausage-shaped body about 10 cm. long could be felt; it was directed upwards and to the right and its dorsal end was blind, whilst below and behind it led into gas-filled S.I.; it suddenly disappeared and the operator failed to locate it, even after vaginotomy under epidural anæsthesia. Concurrently the cow improved in condition and became free from discomfort; uneventful recovery followed. The condition probably represented an invagination which reduced itself during P.R. palpation.

The author concludes with a review of the technique of vaginotomy. Administration of epidural anæsthesia obviates straining but prevents subsequent palpation *per rectum*. No irrigation of the vagina was carried out in these instances. Whilst an embryotomy knife is advantageous, a simple scalpel may be used. The procedure is most useful in the breaking down of adhesions and the reduction of invaginations or "twists." Contra-indications are endometritis with discharge, and impending parturition or abortion.

G. B. B.

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[The More Recent Anæsthetics and their Use in Veterinary Medicine. Berner, Stabsveterinär Dr. *Zschr. Vet.-kunde.* 1933. Vol. 45, No. 6.]

This is a useful review of the literature on the narcotics, avertin, pernocton and eukodal and on the local anæsthetics percain, pantocain and panthesin as utilised in veterinary surgery.

Avertin.—The use of avertin as a basal narcotic is now well known. Avertin lowers blood pressure, increases the pulse rate, slows the respiratory rate and lowers the temperature. It has been used in a 2½-3 per cent. solution for narcotising dogs, cats and horses by oral, intravenous or rectal administration: during preparation in distilled water the temperature must not rise above 40° C., or else decomposition occurs, with the formation of injurious dibromacetaldehyde. Before use avertin solutions must be tested for chemical integrity by the addition of a few drops of 1 per cent. congo red, which should remain orange-red.

A number of surgeons have tested avertin on the horse, but the results have been unsatisfactory, only a brief period of narcosis being obtainable by a single dose: a longer period is, however, obtainable by spreading the dosage over a long period—for instance, Endrejat obtained a 30-minute narcosis by slow administration of two litres of 2½ per cent. avertin. Apart from this detail, however, the high price of the drug rules it out of practical value in equine surgery.

Manz tested avertin on the dog and obtained, with a few exceptions, fairly good results with rectal dosage, up to one hour's narcosis being secured. Voelker used avertin on dogs in a dosage of 0·12 gram per kilo body weight to procure a transient narcosis prior to the application of ether, either by the ordinary inhalation method or by tracheal intubation. The work of Wright, who found avertin a suitable narcotic for cats, is also reviewed.

Pernocton.—Pernocton is a barbiturate preparation, which is prepared in a 10 per cent. aqueous solution in ampoules by the firm Riedel-Haen, Berlin. It causes acceleration of the pulse and a fall in temperature, and the narcotic effect lasts for seven or more hours. The narcosis is very deep and no additional ether, etc., is required for operative purposes.

For procuring narcosis in dogs it is given in a dose of 0·3 c.c. per kg. weight intravenously at the rate of 1 c.c. a minute. If given quickly it is dangerous for life. Hinz and Berge have obtained good results with it, the latter considering it the best narcotic we possess for dogs and cats. Jacobi has applied it subcutaneously in the same dose, but after this way of injection the effects do not appear for one or two hours. In a dosage of 0·7 c.c. per kg. pernocton injected quickly intravenously is a good lethal agent, the animal dying very quickly without a struggle or cry. The main disadvantage of pernocton as a narcotic is the necessity of administering it slowly (intravenously), so that the technique of restraint must be good; pernocton is rather expensive.

Eukodal.—Eukodal has been widely used in human medicine as a substitute for morphia, and has been tested on dogs for the same purpose by Bloss, who was not altogether pleased with the results obtained with it. The effects

come on in about five minutes and last for a few hours. Riethus has found eukodal valuable as an anodyne in equine colic (0·05-1 gram subcutaneously). Its effects begin in ten minutes, it does not cause vomition, like morphia, and does not inhibit the action of drastic purgatives.

Percain.—Percain (made by the firm Ciba, Basel) has been widely employed in veterinary surgery in the last five years. It has several advantages over the earlier cocain substitutes (novocain, etc.): its action is intense in a weak concentration (the usual strength utilised being 1 or 2 per thousand); it is much less toxic, so that large doses may be applied with impunity; its effects are very long-lasting and it is very cheap. It has been used for all the common methods of surface and regional anæsthesia, including epidural anæsthesia (it is the anæsthetic of choice for human spinal anæsthesia) and has also been used in large doses intraperitoneally for laparotomies. Pharmacologically, percain is good, solutions of it being stable if kept very slightly acid; it can be sterilised repeatedly by boiling. It is best used with adrenalin, as it is vaso-dilatory alone.

Pantocain.—Pantocain (Höchst 2593) is made by the Farbenindustrie A. G. It has been used in equine surgery by Bolz for all forms of local anæsthesia. It is rapid in action, has a long-lasting effect and is even less toxic than percain, and, like percain, is rendered inert in the presence of alkali.

Panthesin.—Panthesin is a recent addition to materia medica and is prepared by the firm Sandoz, Nürnberg. Riechenbach has reported on its use in equine surgery, finding it very efficient in a strength of 0·5 per cent. with adrenalin added. Its effects last up to five hours.

The article is concluded by a list of references, all but one of which are of German origin.

J. E.

COMMITTEE ON FOOD LAW

The Minister of Health and the Secretary of State for Scotland have directed that the work of the Committee appointed on May 14th, 1931, under the Chairmanship of Sir Frederick J. Willis, K.B.E., C.B., J.P., to enquire into the working of the law as to the composition and description of articles of food other than milk, which was suspended in September, 1931, shall now be resumed, but that for the terms of reference set out in the minute of appointment of the Committee the following terms of reference shall be substituted:—

> "To consider whether it is desirable that the law relating to the composition and description of articles of food should be altered so as to enable definitions or standards to be prescribed, or declarations of composition to be required, for articles of food other than liquid milk; and if so to recommend what alterations of the law are required."

The Secretary of the Committee is Mr. W. J. Peete, of the Ministry of Health, to whom all communications on the subject should be addressed.

Reports

SOUTHERN RHODESIA

Abridged Report of the Director of Veterinary Research for the Year 1932

In the absence of the Director of Veterinary Research (Ll. E. W. Bevan, M.R.C.V.S.) the Annual Report of the Veterinary Research Department of Southern Rhodesia is presented by Mr. D. A. Lawrence, B.V.Sc., as Acting Director. The routine work undertaken has been as in previous years, but the preparation and issue of preservative for foot-and-mouth disease virus has somewhat increased the labours of the staff. The diagnosis of 2,628 blood or tissue films, 608 serum samples for the agglutination test and the issue of 58 doses of red-water and gallsickness vaccine, and 138 of horse-sickness virus-vaccine are recorded.

With regard to research, it is stated that "During the first month of the year experiments were conducted by Mr. Bevan with the object of perfecting the method of inoculating cattle which was described in his report for 1931. In view of the entirely satisfactory reports on the method when applied under general conditions in the field, it was considered unnecessary to proceed further on these lines, and subsequent research was devoted primarily to the determination of the effects of the virus on animals other than bovines under local conditions." Thus blood virus highly infective to cattle, when inoculated into four guinea-pigs, failed to produce any reaction in three of them and only a very delayed and mild reaction in the fourth. However, a suspension in liver broth of crushed vesicular epithelium obtained from a bovine produced the disease in a typical form in the two guinea-pigs inoculated with it. The virus was successfully kept going for eight generations in these animals, but it was noticeable that the seventh and eighth passages were less virulent than the earlier ones, and the ninth subinoculation failed to produce infection. By this time Mashonaland being free from infection, it was decided to discontinue experiments at the laboratory. It is interesting to note that reports from Weybridge indicated that in some cases the Rhodesian virus had not become fully adapted to guinea-pigs until after 32 passages, although one report from the Kabete Laboratory indicated that fixation was apparently complete by the fifth passage. The value of such experiments, therefore, appears open to doubt.

Cases of pigs having become infected by feeding on milk or carcasses of infected cattle were reported by the Chief Veterinary Surgeon, and infection was successfully produced at the laboratory by inoculating pigs intra-muscularly with blood-virus collected from naturally- or

artificially-infected cases in the field and also by feeding them on the milk of a cow infected at the laboratory. Three young pigs developed typical interdigital vesicles without showing any evidence of a thermal reaction, but two pigs regularly fed on the milk of a cow which had been inoculated and re-inoculated with blood-virus developed typical thermal and clinical manifestations of infection; whereas the cow supplying the milk showed no indication whatsoever of having been infected, nor did the calf which she was suckling. Other experiments also proved that the Rhodesian virus could be adapted to sheep and when so adapted was readily infective to cattle. This observation was contrary to field reports, which indicated that when sheep were grazing together with infected cattle, or over pastures which had been grazed immediately previously by such cattle, close examination failed to reveal any evidence of the sheep having contracted infection.

Reports were received from an area where foot-and-mouth disease was prevalent that natives were showing indications of having contracted the disease, but " it would appear to be extremely improbable that a single case of human infection during this outbreak of the disease can be cited." The cases of human infection recorded by Chase in members of his staff in Bechuanaland (*vide infra*) are therefore of considerable interest.

The inoculation of horses against horse-sickness by the method introduced by Bevan in 1913, and the preparation of " bleeders " for red-water and gallsickness inoculation were continued, but no research on trypanosomiasis was carried out at the laboratory during the year and the actual experiments under field conditions were not commenced. The apparent failure of antimony potassium tartrate in the treatment of trypanosomiasis of cattle is attributed, as hitherto, " to the fact that infected animals could not be kept under sufficiently close control, with the result that they suffered not only from trypanosomiasis but to a very appreciable extent from poverty and overwork. In fact, it would appear that these last-mentioned factors were primarily responsible for the high mortality amongst the Government-owned oxen, which constituted the greatest number of stock in the area." This has been the usual experience and the chief cause of complaint against the treatment since it was first introduced some 20 years ago.

Mr. Lawrence terminates his report by regretting that, under existing conditions, it has not been possible to devote more time to research on the many other diseases and conditions which are a constant menace to the pastoral industry in Southern Rhodesia.

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FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE IN THE BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE

Progress Report

A further interesting report has been received from Mr. W. N. Chase, M.R.C.V.S., Chief Veterinary Officer, Bechuanaland Protectorate, relating to the progress of foot-and-mouth disease in that territory. The intra-nasal method of inoculation introduced by Bevan in Southern Rhodesia has now been applied to 332,249 cattle in Bechuanaland, Working up from the south, all cattle south of a line drawn east and west of Mochudi (latitude 24·5) have been immunised, and all cattle within 30 miles of the Southern Rhodesian borders will have been inoculated by the first week in June. The inoculation of all cattle in the Tuli Block will be completed towards the latter half of June. It may be recalled that in Southern Rhodesia this method was applied to over 185,000 head, with the result that in less than two years the disease was eliminated. The Veterinary Department of Bechuanaland has now almost doubled these figures with, apparently, equal success. This surely constitutes a record in the efficient and economical control of this insidious disease.

Two interesting cases of foot-and-mouth disease are recorded in members of the European Inoculation Staff. In Case No. 1 small vesicles first appeared on the right index finger, and subsequently a crop of small vesicles appeared on the palate. These vesicles were pearly-grey in colour and about the size of a pin's head. A few days later typical large vesicles appeared on the heels. During the whole course of the disease, which lasted about three weeks, there was no rise of temperature, but the disease was accompanied by occasional hot flushes and a feeling of malaise, and tenderness and heat in the mouth and on the heels.

In Case No. 2, numerous small typical foot-and-mouth lesions which, when first seen, had already ruptured, appeared suddenly all over the hard and soft palate and on the labial surface of the upper gum. The appearance of the vesicles was accompanied by a general feeling of malaise and heat and tenderness in the mouth. There was no rise of temperature or pulse, and no sign of vesicles on the heels. The disease lasted for three weeks, at the end of which time all symptoms had disappeared. This case also suffered from the passage of blood and mucus *per rectum*, possibly due to a recrudescence of an old dysentery contracted during the East African Campaign. The medical officer who reports these cases expresses the opinion that the virus gained entrance into the body through an abrasion on the hands during the

(*Concluded at foot of next column.*)

NATIONAL VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

Council Meeting at York

There was a fairly satisfactory attendance of members of Council N.V.M.A., on the occasion of the July meeting, which was held at the Royal Station Hotel, York, on the second of the month.

The President (Lieut.-Colonel P. J. Simpson) occupied the chair, and there were also present Mr. A. W. Steele Bodger, Captain J. C. Coleman, Mr. F. A. Davidson, Lieut.-Colonel J. A. Dixon, Major R. H. H. Over, Captain J. W. Procter, Major D. S. Rabagliati, Captain J. R. Rider, Mr. S. Sharp, Major J. H. Taylor, Captain W. K. Townson, Mr. W. Tweed and Mr. T. Wilkinson.

The President said that, before starting the business of the Council meeting, he should like to thank all those present, who had come considerable distances to support the chair on the occasion of a meeting of Council held in the provinces.

They had in the past, as they knew, had a previous meeting out of London, which, unfortunately, could not be described as an unqualified success. That meeting was held in Birmingham, where the permanent staff and himself had to wait the whole of one morning—during which committee meetings were due to be held—without a single member of the Association or of the Council putting in an appearance.

On the day prior to the present meeting, had it not been for the kindly efforts of the Secretary of the North of England Division in bringing in his friends who were on the Council and thus enabling their co-option on committees for the purpose of constituting a quorum, the committee meetings again would inevitably have fallen through. He was deeply grateful to those gentlemen who had saved the situation, but it was a regrettable fact that at those meetings there were only one or two actual members of the committees in question present. It was most unfortunate, and he thought the lessons they had learned from those two experiences must be taken to heart by the "National," and very serious thought given to the question whether or not they should hold future meetings out of London at all, or, if the holding of meetings out of London was still deemed to be desirable, whether they should not go considerably further north.

At the same time, he must express his great appreciation of the action of those present in coming there that day.

The Secretary presented the minutes of the April meeting of Council, as published in the *Veterinary Record*, and proceeded to read a letter which had been received from Major G. W. Dunkin relative to omissions therefrom of portions of the debate on the report of the Veterinary Officers' and Public Health Committee, which portions he desired should be added to the minutes and published in the *Veterinary Record*. Major Dunkin's letter also contained an expression of opinion that the memorandum drawn up by that committee for the Committee on Cattle Diseases of the Economic Advisory Council, should have received publication, in view of the fact that that document was alleged to be the expressed opinion of the N.V.M.A.

After discussion, in the course of which Major Rabagliati supported the first part of Major Dunkin's proposition, it was agreed that the report constituted an adequate record of the proceedings in question, and, on the proposition of Captain Rider, seconded by Captain Townson, the following resolution was carried: "That no action be taken with regard to the published report of the debate on the report of the Veterinary Officers' and Public Health Committee."

It was further agreed, on the proposition of Major Over, seconded by Major J. H. Taylor, that, in regard to the memorandum, in view of the fact that the Economic Advisory Council have informed the Association that they propose to regard this document as confidential, the action of the Veterinary Officers' and Public Health Committee in refraining from submitting the memorandum for publication in the *Veterinary Record* be approved."

The Secretary said that, in that connection, he had to report that the Economic Advisory Council invited the Association to send representatives to a meeting of the Committee on Cattle Diseases, held on May 1st, and supplement verbally the evidence given by the Association in its memorandum. Accordingly, as arranged at the April meeting of the Council, the President and Mr. Male attended for that purpose.

The President informed the Council that Mr. Male and he spent two-and-a-half hours with that committee, when practically everything that was in the memorandum was digested. They had a very useful discussion over it, but there again, that was in committee; he would say, however, that, speaking generally, things seemed to go as they would have wished them to go. (Hear, hear.)

Also arising from the minutes of the April meeting, the Secretary reported that, as instructed, he had addressed a letter to the Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries

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process of inoculating cattle. In both cases experimental inoculation of guinea-pigs with material from the vesicles and blood of the subjects was resorted to, but with negative results. Both men made complete recoveries and after four weeks on the sick list returned to work.

regarding the subject-matter of the Ministry's publications relating to animal diseases. To that communication the following reply had been received:—

Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries,
10, Whitehall Place,
London, S.W.1.

May 17th, 1933.

Sir,—I am directed to refer to your letter of April 10th last regarding the Ministry's publications dealing with diseases of animals, and in reply to say that the Ministry regrets that it is unable to give an undertaking, as requested by your Association, "to exclude all details of medical treatment from its future publications." The Ministry will, however, continue to bear in mind the representations that have been made by your Association.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
A. T. A. Dobson.

The President commented that that was as far as the Association could go. They had raised their protest against the publication of explicit details of treatment of disease in Ministry of Agriculture pamphlets; they had heard the Ministry's reply, and it remained to be seen how much or how little resulted from the Ministry's assurance that it would continue to bear in mind the representations that had been made by the Association.

A letter was read from the Secretary of the Victoria Veterinary Benevolent Fund, acknowledging, and returning the warmest thanks of the Fund's Council for the Association's subscription for the current year.

Further arising, certain correspondence from the Mid-West and South Wales, Scottish Metropolitan and Southern Counties Divisions relative to fees for distemper immunisation was laid before Council and, after discussion, was referred to the General Purposes Committee, together with an instruction that that committee should give consideration to the views expressed by Captain Procter at the meeting of Council.

CORRESPONDENCE

(1) From the following members of Council apologising for their inability to attend the meeting: Dr. W. H. Andrews, Mr. L. S. Balls, Dr. O. C. Bradley, Captain H. W. Dawes, Mr. J. Dodd, Major A. C. Duncan, Major G. W. Dunkin, Mr. A. Gofton, Professor Sir Frederick Hobday, Captain H. Tudor Hughes, Mr. L. Hughes, Major Hamilton Kirk, Messrs. E. C. Lloyd, G. H. Locke and J. W. McIntosh (Hon. Secretary), Professor James Macqueen, Messrs. G. P. Male, G. T. Matthews, W. C. Miller, W. Nairn, R. B. Nelder and J. O. Powley, Professor Wm. Robb, Captain R. Simpson, Mr. H. P. Standley (Senr.), Major A. Spreull, Major F. J. Taylor, Dr. A. W. Whitehouse, Mr. R. A. Willett, Dr. W. R. Wooldridge, Captain W. G. Wragg (Hon. Treasurer).

(2) From the Secretary of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, dated May 5th, 1933, and stating:—

"At the recent meeting of the Registration Committee the report received from the National Veterinary Medical Association relating to unqualified practice was considered, but as in the opinion of the Committee action on the lines suggested could not profitably be taken, it was resolved to recommend that no action be taken, and this recommendation was approved by the Council at its subsequent meeting."

(3) The Secretary reported that, on the instructions of the Special Committee appointed to investigate such matters, he had addressed a letter to Kelly's Directories, Ltd., requesting that a separate column should be provided in all their local directories for the insertion of the names and addresses of veterinary surgeons. To that letter the following reply had been received from Kelly's Directories, Ltd., in which the following passages occurred:—

"We would point out that a number of our local directories contain complete Classified Trades sections. In these books we insert lists of veterinary surgeons under that heading. There are, however, other local directories in which we do not profess to insert complete trades sections. In these books, however, there are classified lists of trades, in which all entries are inserted on payment of a fee.

"We are sure you will realise that were we to insert free lists of veterinary surgeons in these books we should be obliged to insert similar free lists for other professional bodies, and this we are not prepared to do.

"We should, however, be quite prepared to insert the names and addresses of veterinary surgeons in ordinary type in the classified sections of these books on payment of a small nominal fee by each, if the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons would have no objection to this course."

The Secretary was instructed to pass this reply to the Secretary of the Royal College, in order that the Registration Committee might give consideration to the proposal contained in the closing paragraph.

(4) From the Secretary of the National Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis, inviting the appointment of a delegate to attend the Nineteenth Annual Conference of the Association, to be held at Cardiff, July 13th to 15th.

On the proposition of Major Taylor, seconded by Major Over, it was agreed that a delegate be sent, and that the President, or his nominee, be the representative of the N.V.M.A.

(5) From Mr. D. Murnane, Assistant Hon. Secretary of the Australian Veterinary Association, dated January 5th, making application for the affiliation of that Association with the N.V.M.A.

The President observed that the application was quite in order, under the N.V.M.A. articles of association, and that it was—as they would all agree—a very gratifying thing that a body of the standing of the Australian Veterinary Association should desire and seek affiliation with the "National." (Hear, hear.)

Acceptance of the application having been proposed by Captain Coleman, seconded by Major Rabagliati, and carried unanimously, amid applause, the President added that he was sure that it would be the wish of the Council that the Association's reply conveying assent, should give expression to the pleasure afforded the President and Council of the "National" by that noteworthy accession to the number of their affiliated bodies.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE ASSOCIATION

The Secretary reported that the number of members of the Association at June 30th, 1933, was 1,618.

The Obituary List was read by the Secretary, Council standing in silent tribute the while.

The Secretary reported that the following gentlemen, who had been appealed to without success to reconsider their decisions, had resigned membership during the past quarter: Messrs. C. Aggio (Colchester), J. Barr (Acle), J. W. Bate (Northwich), A. M. McClew (Usk), J. A. B. McGowan (Dedham) and P. J. Mullane (Cardiff).

The following, having completed the requisite forms of nomination and paid their subscription, were elected to membership, on the proposition of Captain Townson, seconded by Major Over: Messrs. W. H. W. Baird (Hooton), J. E. Barnes (Midsomer Norton), D. Danby (London), W. J. Flanagan (Ballinasloe), J. A. Flynn (Dublin), J. Gordon-Souter (Ministry of Agriculture), F. B. Hardy (Guernsey), S. Jamieson (Glasgow), W. F. Jarratt (Farnham), K. I. Marshall (Bridport), T. F. O'Brien (Nigeria), F. E. Rickard (Woking), H. M. Salusbury (Tanganyika), J. S. Stevenson (Dorchester), C. Watson (Haverfordwest).

The facts that the Association had lost eleven members by death and resignation and had elected 15, brought the membership to a total of 1,622.

Reports of Committees

Organising Committee.

Captain J. R. Rider (Chairman) read the following report of this committee and moved its reception and adoption:—

The Organising Committee met at the Royal Station Hotel, York, on Monday, July 3rd, 1933, with Captain J. R. Rider in the chair. There were also present the President (Lieut.-Colonel P. J. Simpson) and Captain J. C. Coleman. For the purpose of constituting a quorum, Mr. T. Wilkinson and Mr. W. Brown were co-opted.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as correct.

Arising from the minutes:—

(i) The receipt was reported of further replies from the Divisions on the subject of the memorandum regarding canine nurses. As, however, the views of four Divisions were still outstanding, the further consideration of this matter was again deferred.

(ii) The Secretary informed the meeting that the Editorial Committee had considered the suggestion relating to the supply of articles suitable for publication in children's newspapers, but their feeling was that this matter was more within the province of the Organising Committee than in that of the Editorial Committee.

The President informed the committee that he had taken this matter up with the R.S.P.C.A., who had undertaken to consider the subject. Under these circumstances it was decided to defer further consideration to the next meeting.

(iii) Correspondence relating to negotiations with the R.S.P.C.A. concerning a dispensary in an Eastern town was received, and the Committee decided to record in the minutes its warmest appreciation of the services rendered by Mr. G. T. Matthews in the matter.

(iv) A communication was received from the Chief Secretary, R.S.P.C.A., with regard to the fees to be paid to veterinary surgeons for first-aid to dogs and cats injured by street accidents, stating that the Society agree to a flat rate of 5s. for cases occurring within a reasonable distance of a veterinary surgeon's premises, and will be prepared to take into account exceptional circumstances where the animal may be at a considerable distance from such a centre.

It was agreed that the extract from the Chief Secretary's letter relative to the above decision should be sent down to Divisions for the information of their members.

(v) In connection with the appointment of Sir Frederick Hobday and Major-General Sir John Moore as a deputation to interview the Lord Mayor of London, the Secretary informed the committee that it had not yet been found possible to make arrangements for the interview.

A letter was read from the Hon. Secretary of the North Midland Division, forwarding copy of rules for the working of a decentralised scheme for the free veterinary advice or treatment of sick animals of the poor in conjunction with the Sheffield Branch of the R.S.P.C.A., which had been put into operation in Sheffield for a trial period of three months.

The Secretary intimated that two cases of advertising by unqualified persons had been brought to notice during the past quarter, and that counter-advertisements had therefore been inserted in Lancashire and Surrey newspapers. It was decided that a note be inserted in the *Veterinary Record*, reporting what had been done in this regard, and advising members of the existence of this counter-advertising service, and also that a letter on the subject be sent to the Divisions.

An article entitled "The Veterinary Profession and the Public," which had been circulated to the press on the instructions of the Editorial Committee, was laid before the meeting, and the Secretary reported that the Local Hon. Secretary of the Provisional Committee for the Llandudno Congress had secured publication of the article in the *North Wales Weekly News*.

In accordance with the instructions of the Council, the committee reconsidered the advisability of continuing the Clinical Prize Scheme for Students.

After discussion, it was resolved that further consideration of this matter be adjourned until after the receipt of entries for the current competition, but that in the meantime principals of colleges be requested to bring the scheme to the notice of students as prominently as possible.

Major Taylor seconded the motion, which was carried without discussion.

Appointments Committee.

The following report was read by the Secretary, in the absence of the Chairman of the committee (Professor Buxton):—

A meeting of the Appointments Committee was held at the Royal Station Hotel, York, on Tuesday, July 4th, 1933. In the absence of Professor Buxton, the President occupied the chair. There were also present Captain J. R. Rider and, as co-opted members, Captain J. C. Coleman, Major R. H. H. Over, Major J. H. Taylor and Mr. T. Wilkinson.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as correct.

Arising from the minutes, a further communication was read from the Yorkshire Division suggesting that, in view of the lapse of time since its issue, the Association's letter relative to the appointment of veterinary surgeons as meat inspectors should be modified or altered where necessary and again circulated to all local authorities.

This was agreed, and it was decided that the Chairman of the committee, together with Lieut.-Colonel J. A. Dixon and Lieut.-Colonel T. Dunlop Young be asked to edit the circular and bring it up to date prior to re-issue.

Also arising, the Secretary presented correspondence which had passed between the Association and a local authority in connection with the re-grading and salary of their veterinary officer. This included a letter, in which a protest was lodged against a resolution of the Corporation's sub-committee confirming its previous decision, and which again pressed for a scale more in accordance with that of the N.V.M.A. The committee approved the terms of this protest, and decided to await further developments.

Correspondence was submitted which had passed between the Association and the Medical Officer of Health, Cardiff, regarding the proposed appointment of an Assistant Meat Inspector and Market Manager. It was understood that the person appointed would work under the supervision of the Chief Veterinary Officer, but no information could be obtained as to whether the Assistant Meat Inspector would be a member of the veterinary profession, as recommended by the Association.

The attention of the Association was drawn to the decision of the Wiltshire County Council to appoint two Junior Assistant Veterinary Officers at a commencing salary of £350 per annum, and, in consequence, a letter has been addressed to the County Council calling attention to the N.V.M.A. scale of salaries for whole-time veterinary officers and urging its adoption in regard to these appointments. In addition, at the suggestion of a member and with the approval of the Chairman of the committee, a notice has been inserted in the *Veterinary Record* intimating that the Association could not recommend to its members, at present, acceptance of these appointments, applications for which were being invited in the lay press.

The committee endorsed the action taken.

In accordance with the instructions of the Council, the committee has considered the terms of appointments under the Government of Southern Rhodesia.

After discussion, it was decided to leave this matter in the hands of the Chairman of the committee and that he be informed that the committee are in agreement with the course of action suggested by a correspondent being adopted, provided that this meets with the approval of the Chairman of the committee.

The President, as acting Chairman of the committee, moved the reception and adoption of the report.

Captain Townson seconded.

Lieut.-Colonel Dixon enquired, with reference to the suggested amended circular with regard to the appointment of meat inspectors, if its distribution must be restricted to local authorities: would it not be possible to send it to the Ministry of Health? He raised the point because he knew that strenuous efforts were being made by another organisation to press the claims of their members.

The President replied that the amended circular would be forwarded to the Ministry of Health also, adding that he might say that the Ministry were in sympathy with the Association's attitude with regard to the appointment as meat inspectors of persons holding veterinary qualifications. Great efforts had been made by both the N.V.M.A. and the R.C.V.S. for the purpose of securing for the veterinary surgeon full powers as an inspector of meat.

On the proposition of Captain Townson, seconded by Lieut.-Colonel Dixon, it was agreed to add the name of Major Brennan De Vine to the list of those re-editing the circular prior to its re-issue.

The report, as amended, was received and adopted.

Veterinary Officers and Public Health Committee.

In the absence of the Chairman of the committee (Mr. Male), the report of this committee was read by the Secretary, as follows:—

The Veterinary Officers' and Public Health Committee met at the Royal Station Hotel, York, on July 3rd, 1933. In the absence of Mr. G. P. Male, the chair was occupied by the President. Mr. J. C. Coleman was the only other member of the committee present, and Mr. F. A. Davidson, Captain J. R. Rider, Mr. T. Wilkinson and Mr. W. Brown were co-opted.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read, confirmed, and signed.

Arising from the minutes, a reply was read from the Live Stock Traders' Association of Great Britain to the Association's communication regarding their letter to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries on February 27th, 1933, criticising the manner in which veterinary inspectors of local authorities perform their duties.

This reply stated that the Live Stock Traders' Association was convinced that the present system of dealing with diseases scheduled under the Diseases of Animals Acts is wrong entirely, in that those engaged on the work do not work directly under one department; that experts to deal with these diseases are absolutely essential, and that the Association feels so strongly on this matter, that the fact that their action in approaching the Ministry has offended the feelings of members of the N.V.M.A. will not deter the Association from continuing to press their views, that the whole of the veterinary inspectors engaged with work under the Diseases of Animals Acts shall be under the direct control of, and

responsible to, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

After discussion, it was decided that the above letter be referred to the Chairman of the committee with an expression of opinion that the Live Stock Traders' Association be asked to receive a small delegation to explain the position, it being left to the Chairman to select the delegates.

The receipt was reported of a copy of the Memorandum which the Scottish Branch of the Association had forwarded for the consideration of the Committee on Cattle Diseases of the Economic Advisory Council, and the Committee was informed that representatives of the Branch had given verbal evidence on May 29th.

Consideration was given to the following reply from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, to whom representations had been made on the subject at the request of Mr. C. Masson, of Torquay, and with the approval of the Chairman of the committee.

Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries,
10, Whitehall Place,
London, S.W.1.

June 6th, 1933.

Ref. S.E.12130B.

Sir,—I am directed to refer to your letter of the 23rd ultimo regarding the notification issued by the Ministry to its local veterinary inspectors of a reduction in the rates allowed for the use of private motor vehicles on the public service, and I am to state that the revised rates contained in this notification are those which have recently been applied generally by the Treasury throughout the Government service to the use of private motor vehicles on official business, including, of course, those of whole-time veterinary inspectors of the Ministry. There is, however, a provision whereby the Treasury are prepared to consider the grant of an additional ½d. per mile (up to 8,000 miles in any year) in any very exceptional cases for which Government Departments are of opinion that, owing to the nature of the roads over which an officer frequently travels or to some other special performance, a motor car of over 12 horse-power is necessary. If any local veterinary inspector makes application to the Ministry under this provision his application will receive consideration.

Your Association will, no doubt, appreciate that it is not possible to grant higher rates to local veterinary inspectors employed on a fee basis than those paid to civil servants using their motor cars on official business.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed) C. R. Williams.

After discussion, the committee came to the conclusion that no further action could usefully be taken.

The President moved the reception and adoption of the report, as acting Chairman of the committee,

Mr. Steele-Bodger having seconded the motion, the President enquired if all the members of Council were aware of the views expressed by the Live Stock Traders' Association with regard to local inspectors. Would the Council care to hear that letter read? He thought that, as there was a fair number of people present, it would be advisable for them to hear that letter read, because it was written in no uncertain terms.

Major Rabagliati: "Is it in reply to the letter published in the minutes of the last meeting?"

The President: "Yes. It is the second letter received from them."

The Secretary read the letter, as follows:—

The Live Stock Traders' Association of Great Britain, Ltd.,
12, Charterhouse Square,
London, E.C.1.

May 29th, 1933.

The Secretary,
National Veterinary Medical Association of Great Britain and Ireland,
2, Verulam Buildings,
W.C.1.

Dear Sir,—I have been instructed by my Association to reply to your letter of April 5th, 1933, criticising a letter sent by my Association to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries on February 27th, 1933.

In the first place my Association is convinced that the present system of dealing with diseases scheduled under the Diseases of Animals Acts is wrong entirely, in that those engaged on the work do not work *directly under one department*. So long as there are the present variations, and lack of uniformity, amongst local authorities, and their veterinary advisers, then it is unfair, not only to the members of our Association operating all over Great Britain, but to the whole of the livestock producers in the country.

The business of livestock trading is difficult enough at all times without being made more so by the procrastination of many local authorities' employees.

In paragraph 4 of your letter it is stated that "precautionary measures are obligatory whenever a local veterinary inspector has reasonable grounds to suspect disease." Have not the livestock traders and farmers reasonable grounds for asking that when that inspector does make his visit, his decision shall be—in the great majority of cases—definite? There have been cases innumerable where restrictions have been imposed by the local authority's inspector and immediately withdrawn after the Ministry's inspector has examined the stock suspected. If these restrictions were imposed only in cases where it is necessary to wait "until a diagnosis can confidently be made" the livestock trade would not object, but this is not the case.

Again, if the qualifications and capabilities of those inspectors employed by the local authorities are as claimed by you, why is it necessary to have a Ministry's inspector called in at all?

This Association is not in a position nor does it desire to criticise the training of veterinary inspectors at colleges, but it is not prepared to accept as a fact the principle that they become experts immediately they leave these colleges, and the amount of money at stake is so great when outbreaks of disease occur that *experts* to deal with these diseases are *absolutely essential.*

As regards swine fever, the Association is fully aware of the difficulties in diagnosing the disease, but your Association must also be aware that the local inspectors have practically nothing to do with that disease, and when information is desired by our members and pig keepers they are referred to a Ministry's inspector, who may be 30 miles away.

In the last paragraph of your letter you suggest that with a better knowledge of the rules of procedure under the Acts, this Association will withdraw its criticism, etc. As already stated, this Association is composed of livestock traders operating all over Great Britain, and their knowledge of procedure in many cases has been dearly purchased, owing to the fact that for many years they have suffered great financial loss through the lack of uniformity of local authorities in dealing with contagious diseases under the present prevailing system. There seems to be no good reason why the system should not be altered for the benefit of everyone concerned, *including the local inspectors themselves.*

In conclusion I may add my Association is concerned not only with the interests of its members, but with the general welfare of livestock procedure. We feel so strongly on this matter, that the fact that our action in approaching the Ministry of Agriculture has offended the feelings of your members will not deter us in the slightest from continuing to press our views, that the whole of the veterinary inspectors engaged with work under the Diseases of Animals Acts shall be under the direct control of, and responsible to, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Yours faithfully,

E. E. Medlycott,

General Secretary.

The President observed that it was not necessary for him to have brought that letter forward, except as a matter of interest.

In reply to Mr. Steele-Bodger, who enquired if the Live Stock Traders' Association of Great Britain was a very influential body, Lieut.-Colonel Dixon said that he knew they could bring some Parliamentary influence to bear. Proceeding, Colonel Dixon queried whether any useful purpose would be served by sending a deputation: they seemed to be pressing for a complete reorganisation of procedure under Diseases of Animals Acts. The gist of their complaint was that the veterinary inspector of a local authority certified suspected foot-and-mouth disease, that subsequently the Ministry Veterinary Officer visited the premises and decided in the negative, and that meanwhile the cattle were held up for 48 hours.

Captain Townson thought that a deputation should go, as such a course would enable several matters to be cleared up; for instance, as to why the veterinary inspector must put on a five-mile-radius Movement of Animals (Prohibition) Order in cases of suspected foot-and-mouth disease, and why he could not have it withdrawn until the Ministry Veterinary Officer had visited the suspected outbreak.

The President: "That is what I thought—that a deputation could smooth things over, and chat matters over amicably."

The motion for the reception and adoption of the report was then put, and carried unanimously.

Parliamentary Committee.

Mr. Coleman (Chairman) read the report of this committee as follows, and moved its reception and adoption:—

A meeting of the Parliamentary Committee was held at the Royal Station Hotel, York, on Tuesday, July 4th, 1933, with Captain J. C. Coleman in the chair. The President and Captain Rider were also present, and for the purpose of providing a quorum Major J. H. Taylor and Mr. T. Wilkinson were co-opted.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed as correct.

Arising from the minutes, an interim report was received of a joint meeting of the sub-committees appointed by the Parliamentary Committees of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, and the N.V.M.A., held on Wednesday, April 19th, 1933, to consider the Report of the Reorganisation Commission for Milk. It was understood from this report that the following recommendation would be placed on the agenda for consideration at the next meeting of the Joint Committee:—

> "That a communication be addressed to the Minister of Agriculture stating that the Joint Committee have given consideration to the Report of the Reorganisation Commission for Milk, and especially its recommendations with regard to the routine inspection of dairy cattle, and that having regard to the great importance of the recommendations and the need for their early application, the Joint Committee earnestly recommend that full advantage should be taken of the services which could be rendered by part-time veterinary officers in the carrying out of the proposals, as well as those of whole-time veterinary officers."

Also arising from the minutes, letters were read conveying the views of the Divisions on the Association's enquiry (*a*) As to the best method of carrying out the veterinary inspection of dairy cattle; (*b*) By whom such inspections should be made; (*c*) How many times a year herds should be inspected.

After discussion, it was decided to lay this correspondence before the Chairman of the Special Joint Parliamentary Sub-Committee of the R.C.V.S. and the N.V.M.A. for his decision as to whether or not copies should be supplied to each member of the Joint Committee.

It was further agreed to lay before the Council the resolution submitted by the Southern Counties Division. This resolution reads as follows:—

> "At a meeting of the Southern Counties Veterinary Society, held at Winchester on May 26th, it was unanimously decided that the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons and the National Veterinary Medical Association should, during the sitting of the Reorganisation Commission for Milk, have taken steps to see that the work and views of the veterinary profession were adequately represented before that Commission."

Arising out of a letter received from Mr. J. W. Hall Masheter conveying a communication from the Clerk of the Gloucestershire County

Council expressing the Diseases of Animals Committee's appreciation of the work of their part-time veterinary inspectors, the committee directed that Mr. Hall Masheter be informed that his letter has been laid before the committee, who were appreciative of the sentiments contained in the communication forwarded by him.

In accordance with the instructions of the Council, the Licensing of Bulls Act, 1931, has been reconsidered, with the object of presenting to the Ministry of Agriculture the claims of veterinary surgeons for appointments thereunder.

The committee recommends that a request be addressed to the Ministry of Agriculture asking that the Association should be consulted with a view to the appointment of a representative of the veterinary profession on the Panel of Referees to officiate under the Act.

Major Rabagliati seconded the motion.

Mr. Steele-Bodger asked if it were not the wish of the Parliamentary Committee that under the reorganisation scheme the inspection of dairy herds should be carried out not only by the part-time inspector but by the general practitioner, who held no such appointment; also, did not they think that the time had come when the ordinary general practitioner, who was not a part-time inspector, should be allowed to " pull his weight " in the inspection of dairy herds? He thought they would get far greater unanimity amongst the members of the Association if they included the general practitioner in addition to the part-time inspector.

Mr. Coleman replied that the point raised by Mr. Steele-Bodger was under consideration by the Joint Sub-Committee. They had purposely avoided discussing the subject in detail, in order that there should be no stultification of the discussion which would take place when they received the report of the Joint Sub-Committee.

Captain Tweed enquired who were the members representing the N.V.M.A. on the Joint Sub-Committee.

The Secretary gave these as follows: The President, Captain Coleman, Mr. L. Hughes, Mr. J. W. McIntosh, Sir John Moore, Mr. Nairn, Mr. Nelder, Captain Rider and Captain Wragg, with instructions to add to their number.

Mr. Steele-Bodger added that he raised the point because he was under the impression that the matter was resolving itself into a bone of contention between the whole-time inspectors and the part-time inspectors, and he thought such should not be the case. (Hear, hear.)

The President said that that matter was being discussed by the Joint Sub-Committee of the N.V.M.A. and R.C.V.S. on a fairly broad basis. Unfortunately, the first meeting was sparsely attended, and he was, he thought, somewhat responsible for the action then taken. Feeling that there was an insufficient number of people present to warrant the issue of a *fiat*, he suggested that the recommendation contained in the report of the Parliamentary Committee should be placed on the agenda for consideration at the next meeting of the Joint Committee.

Mr. Steele-Bodger moved, Captain Tweed seconded, and it was agreed: " That it be an instruction to the Joint Sub-Committee to co-opt persons representing practitioners (not necessarily part-time inspectors) and whole-time (including county borough) inspectors."

The President, replying to a question put by Captain Townson, said that the Association were going to ask the Ministry to allow them to nominate a veterinary surgeon to act on the Panel of Referees to officiate under the Licensing of Bulls Act, 1931.

Mr. Davidson having explained the position obtaining in Scotland, the President added that the Association were endeavouring to ensure that matters should be placed on the same footing south of the Border, *i.e.*, that in the same way that the Scottish Branch now nominated veterinary surgeons to serve on the Panel of Referees for the Scottish Act, so the N.V.M.A. should nominate for the English Panel. Nevertheless, it should be remembered that the Act was concerned rather with conformation and kindred matters than with disease.

The motion for the reception and adoption of the report was carried unanimously.

Finance and General Purposes Committee.

The report of this committee was read by the Secretary, as follows:—

There have been two meetings of the Finance and General Purposes Committee during the past quarter.

The sum of £100, which included the £49 11s. 10d. cash bonus from conversion of 5 per cent. War Loan, has been expended in the purchase of £97 10s. 6d. worth of Essex 3½ per cent. 1952/72 Stock. The committee seek the Council's approval of their action in sealing and signing on the Association's behalf the document involved in this transaction.

A donation of ten guineas has been forwarded in aid of the benevolent work of the National Veterinary Benevolent and Mutual Defence Society.

The accounts of the Association for the year ending December 31st, 1932, and auditors' certificate, have been received and approved for presentation to the next Annual General Meeting.

Correspondence has been considered from two members regarding the rejection by a county council of the claims made by them for compensation for loss of office as part-time inspectors. Following upon correspondence between the Association's solicitor and the solicitors acting for these gentlemen, appeals have been lodged with the Treasury and the committee have made a grant of five guineas towards the legal expenses involved.

The attention of the Association has been drawn by the Mid-West and South Wales Division to a ruling of the Bristol magistrates that licences must be taken out for dogs boarded by persons or establishments.

The committee recommend that this ruling, upon which they have obtained the views of the solicitor, should be considered by the Council.

Hon. Treasurer's Statement.—A report on the finances of the Association for the months of March, April and May, submitted by the

Hon. Treasurer (Captain W. G. Wragg) was read by the Secretary, in the absence of the former.

The statement showed that on March 1st the Association had at bank £2,301 6s. 5d., and that during the period under review the sum of £1,568 14s. 7d. was received from all sources, making the total £3,870 1s. From this was disbursed the sum of £2,609 10s. 9d. (including £1,552 7s. 9d. invested in various stocks); leaving a final balance at bank of £1,260 10s. 3d.

The President having, as Chairman of the committee, moved the reception and adoption of the report (Mr. Steele-Bodger seconding), he proceeded to say that, arising out of the committee's report was the recommendation that the Council should consider the ruling of the Bristol magistrates that licences must be taken out for dogs boarded by persons or establishments. Doubtless members of Council would be aware of the case in question, in which a veterinary surgeon was summoned for being in possession of a dog without having a licence for it. The veterinary surgeon was keeping the dog for a lady, living in another part of the county, who had not taken out a licence for the animal, and the magistrates convicted for not taking out a licence.

The report also made reference to the claim for compensation for loss of office put forward by two holders of part-time appointments as inspectors, and he would ask the Solicitor to state the position in both the dog licence and the compensation claim cases.

The Solicitor pointed out that the Dog Licensing Act, 1867, provided that the keeper of a dog should be liable for a licence for that dog and that every person in whose custody charge or possession or in whose house or premises any dog is found or seen, is to be deemed to be the person who keeps such dog, unless the contrary be proved. He explained that some ambiguity might arise as to the actual construction of the words "unless the contrary be proved," but that it might be taken, generally speaking, that the authorities considered in cases where dogs were boarded out or under treatment with a veterinary surgeon, that no offence would lie, provided that the owner of the dog held a current licence. He further explained that he had been able to ascertain that in the Bristol case neither the owner nor the veterinary surgeon held a licence for the dog in question.

With reference to the claim recently made by two part-time inspectors for compensation for loss of office upon the appointment of a full-time inspector under the Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915, the Solicitor explained that the matter was in the hands of the legal advisers to the two gentlemen in question, and further that it was understood that their claims had not been admitted by the county council concerned and that the decision of the latter had been confirmed by the Treasury. The Solicitor further explained that one of the part-time inspectors in question was originally appointed under the Diseases of Animals Act, 1894, and that his appointment as such could be revoked at any time, as provided for by that Act. He further pointed out that the 1915 Act only provided for payment of compensation to anyone holding office at the passing of that Act and suffering pecuniary loss by the abolition of his office in consequence of that passing, and that it followed that in order to support a claim for compensation the claimant should have been actually carrying out part-time duties which, by the passing of the Act, were transferred to a whole-time inspector.

The President thanked the Solicitor for his observations and added that, if any member desired to ask Mr. Langley any questions on those two cases, he was sure the Solicitor would be glad to answer them.

Replying to Captain Tweed, who enquired as to the position of the owners of greyhound racing tracks, the Solicitor said that the point was that, in the event of difficulty arising, the person in temporary charge of the dog had to be in a position to specify the owner, who, of course, had the licence.

In discussion of the Treasurer's Statement, Major Rabagliati enquired as to the item, under "Outgoings," "Crossley and Co., refund cancelled *Veterinary Record* subscriptions £13 13s. 8d."

The Secretary explained that at the beginning of the year these agents for periodicals entered a certain number of subscriptions for the *Veterinary Record*. Later, some of these subscribers decided to discontinue taking the journal, and the custom in the trade was for publishers to make a refund for subscriptions thus cancelled. This procedure accounted for the item in question.

The motion was then put, and carried unanimously.

Editorial Committee.

In the absence of the Chairman of the committee (Sir John Moore) this report was read by the Secretary, as follows:—

During the past quarter the Editorial Committee has been glad to receive a steady flow of clinical contributions from the newly-appointed Divisional Representatives of the *Veterinary Record*. It is noted, however, that while certain of these representatives have each forwarded several case reports, there remains a number from whom no contributions have been received as yet, and it is hoped that those representatives who have not so far forwarded material will soon be in a position to do so.

Much material of interest has been received for other sections of the paper, and it may be mentioned that the committee has seen fit to go to some expense and trouble in securing access

for the Editorial Representative to the transcript in the important case of alleged sewage poisoning Bastin and Young *v.* Godstone Rural District Council, a full report of which will be published forthwith in the Association's journal.

At the meetings devoted to the consideration of policy several important matters have been discussed. At one of them a member presented a series of points relative to the desirability of giving greater prominence in the *Veterinary Record* to material stressing the value of the veterinarian to the State. The committee heartily endorsed the view of this member and an initial article on this subject has already received insertion.

As will have been noted from the columns of the *Record,* it has been decided that in future anonymously contributed articles on general professional topics may be accepted for publication.

During the period under review a letter has been addressed to each of the veterinary colleges stating that the committee would welcome for publication details of college activities or of those of members of the staff in giving lectures, addresses, etc.

The exchange list has been augmented by the addition of several important Continental periodicals.

Reception and adoption of the report were moved by the President and seconded by Major Over.

Discussion being invited, Mr. Procter asked if the Editorial Committee dealt with the question of the acceptance or not of advertisements sent for insertion in the Association's journal.

Receiving an affirmative reply, Mr. Procter expressed the opinion that more care should be exercised in the acceptance of display announcements, and, furthermore, that some advantage should be accorded those firms which restricted the distribution of their products to members of the veterinary profession only.

Major Rabagliati expressed gratification that the Editorial Committee were to publish in detail the report of the very important case of alleged sewage poisoning of cattle.

The report was received and adopted without further discussion.

Resolutions from Divisions

From the Central Division.—" That in cases of the working of horses in an alleged unfit state, a veterinary surgeon should be called to examine the animal before the person concerned is charged."

The President informed the Council that that was, in reality, a revised resolution. The Central Veterinary Society sent to the April meeting of Council, a resolution of which the Council did not quite understand the purport, and the Division had now sent this one. They did not now indicate in what manner they desired that the resolution should be dealt with —as to whether it should be forwarded anywhere, etc.

Major Over observed that it appeared to him that the subject dealt with in the resolution was a purely domestic matter for the R.S.P.C.A. —whether or not they chose to take the risk of charging anyone with cruelty to a horse without taking professional advice—and that it was up to a defendant to seek professional advice to assist him in defending his case. He did not think it was going to make the defence any easier, to insist upon a professional man seeing the horse first; moreover, in his opinion, they had no power to insist upon the adoption of such a course. He thought it better to leave the matter alone.

The Secretary read the following expression of opinion which had been received from Mr. G. H. Locke, of Manchester:—

" With regard to the resolution from the Central Division *re* cruelty cases, I may say it has always been the custom for a veterinary inspection, before the charge is booked, in the city police but not with the county police. Each division has its own appointed V.S."

Mr. Procter thought it would be unwise to accept such a resolution without also making some provision that no charge should be made until the defendant, also, had had an opportunity of calling in a veterinary surgeon.

Mr. Steele-Bodger felt that the resolution might be accepted, purely as an expression of opinion.

The President intervened to say that he was advised by the Solicitor that such a resolution could not be regarded as a basis for action by any body to whom it might be forwarded.

It was thereupon moved by Mr. Steele-Bodger, duly seconded, and unanimously resolved: " That no action be taken."

Any Other Business

Mr. W. Tweed said that, under this heading, he would like to point out that the British Broadcasting Corporation had granted permission to representatives of the Legal and of the Medical Professions to broadcast addresses on subjects of public interest pertaining to those professions, and he thought that the N.V.M.A. should consider the advisability of selecting certain veterinary surgeons to speak " on the air " on veterinary topics likely to be of interest to the public.

The President said that veterinarians had given " broadcast " talks, both in the South and in the North, but doubtless the nomination of speakers by the N.V.M.A. would bear more weight with the B.B.C.

Mr. Tweed gave notice that at the next quarterly meeting of Council he would move: " That the N.V.M.A. consider the advisability of obtaining the permission of the British Broadcasting Corporation to appoint veterinary surgeons to speak on veterinary matters of public interest."

The Secretary reported that he had received

from Major G. W. Dunkin notice that, at the Council meeting to be held in September (at Llandudno) he would move the following resolution: "That all reports or memoranda prepared by standing committees and intended for publication or submission to Government Departments shall be circulated to all members of Council at least 24 hours before the meeting and that this be an instruction to all Chairmen of committees."

In reply to Lieut.-Colonel Dixon, who enquired what was the position of the question of the suggested change of title of the Association, discussed at the last Extraordinary General Meeting, held at Folkestone, the President said that the matter would come up automatically for discussion on the occasion of the next Annual General Meeting, to be held at Llandudno.

Proceeding, the President observed that that concluded the business of the meeting. He desired, however, again to tender his grateful thanks to those who had journeyed to York to support him at that meeting. He hoped all would be present at Llandudno, and that there they would have the most successful Congress it was possible to hold.

A very hearty vote of thanks to the President for "the enthusiasm with which he regularly attends these meetings, and with which he so often fills the vacant place of Chairman of committees"—also for the excellent manner in which he had presided over that meeting, was carried with enthusiasm.

Returning thanks, the President said that, as they all knew, he had carried on in that office for a long—an over-long—time. ("No. No.") At all events, he was looking forward to the time when he was to lay down that onerous office, the occupancy of which had, nevertheless, afforded him much interest and pleasure.

SQUILL AS A RAT POISON

The extermination of rats is desirable on both hygienic and economic grounds. Squill is especially suitable for the purpose, because it not only has the merit of being very effective, but is not poisonous to cats or dogs. In order to stabilise the active principle, the bulbs, after being deprived of their inactive cores, cut up, and dried, are subjected to the action of the vapour of a methyl acetic mixture, boiling at 80° C., after which they are again dried. Red bulbs are preferable to white, as they are more toxic to rats.—L. A. Danzel (*Parf. Mod.*, quoted by *Pharm. Jour.*).

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"Not many presidents take a leading hand in the organisation of a show, but Mr. Peter Meikle, the Strathaven V.S., was in his element on Wednesday, and he kept things humming," says the *Scottish Farmer*, in reference to the Strathaven and District Agricultural Exposition, held on July 19th. "There was a tremendous crowd, and entries were up about 150. Good work being done here."

In Parliament

MILK MARKETING SCHEME

Approval by Both Houses

In the House of Lords on July 27th, Earl de la Warr, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Agriculture, moved that the Special Order in connection with the Milk Marketing Scheme, 1933, be approved. He said that the scheme was a tremendous experiment dealing with a vast and hitherto totally disorganised industry. The annual value of the product with which it dealt was over £50,000,000 a year. He appealed to their lordships to give all the explanation and advocacy of the scheme that they could in the country in order that farmers should be able to understand it sufficiently to be prepared to vote in favour of it. The scheme was the one hope of producing order out of the present chaos.

Lord Jessel asked if there was any justification for the complaint of the Amalgamated Master Dairymen, Limited, that the time for consideration of this matter had been too short.

Lord Rhayader said that he viewed these schemes with growing apprehension. Was the effect of this scheme going to be to raise the price of milk to the consumer or to lower it or to keep it at its present level?

Earl de la Warr said that the scheme was not meant to raise or lower prices; it was meant to stabilise them, and to ensure that the prices that were annually negotiated now between the National Farmers' Union and the distributors should be adhered to. He was taken by surprise by the statement of the Amalgamated Dairymen, because all through the discussion of this scheme the Ministry had kept in the closest touch with the representatives of all the distributors and manufacturers.

The motion was agreed to.

On the same date, in the House of Commons, Major Elliot moved that the Special Order be approved. The scheme, he said, had been the subject of many months' exhaustive expert inquiry, and of the hearing of all sorts of evidence. The principle on which the scheme would operate was that of a series of regional pools, eleven in number. Regional committees were to advise the Central Board on the working of the scheme. Within each region all producers, who were to be registered, would receive the same price for their milk irrespective of whether it was sold for liquid consumption or for manufacture. Between the regions there would be an inter-regional compensation. A levy, to be collected on the milk sold, would be used to level up the price within the particular region. The consumers' interests would be watched by a consumers' committee.

Mr. T. Williams congratulated the Minister of Agriculture on having persuaded the diverse interests involved in this gigantic undertaking to allow the scheme to be prepared so that it could come before the House before the adjournment. (Cheers.) On behalf of the Labour Party, he welcomed the scheme.

Sir E. Grigg said that the marketing scheme had been laid down in terms which were a good deal more absolute than the Commission recommended, but the more important side of the scheme was its organisation. The Commission believed it was essential to establish the principle of co-operation between all sections of the industry, and it was particularly vital to producers. The Commission endeavoured to secure that by setting up a joint council, on which all interests should be represented. It was equally important that the farmer should have the goodwill of the public, and it was vital that there should be

further restriction on imports. The scheme, excellent as it was, was an experiment, and he hoped the farmers would assist the Minister to complete the organisation when they had had experience of its working.

Sir J. Lamb said he believed agriculturists would have reason to appreciate the benefits that the scheme would confer upon them. A meed of praise should be given for the services rendered by the executive of the National Farmers' Union.

The resolution to approve the scheme was agreed to.

[The Minister of Agriculture on Friday of last week made an order under the Agricultural Marketing Act, 1931, approving the Milk Marketing Scheme, 1933. The scheme now enters a "suspensory period," during which a poll of the registered producers will be taken to decide whether the scheme shall remain in force. Unless a two-thirds majority of the producers voting, both as regards the number of voters and the quantity of the "regulated product" (cows' milk) which they are capable of producing, is secured in favour of the continuance of the scheme, it will lapse.]

* * * * *

Light Horse Breeding

Prior to the recess, Mr. Wedderburn, in the House of Commons, asked the Minister of Agriculture if he is now in a position to say what has been the result of his investigations into the effect of the withdrawal of the light-horse-breeding subsidy; and whether it will be possible for him to collaborate with the War Office at some future date in evolving a scheme for the encouragement of this industry?

Major Elliot: As regards the first part of the question, it is too early to state the effect of the withdrawal of grants for light-horse breeding. As regards the second part of the question, the possibility of collaborating with the War Office is under consideration; but I am not at present in a position to make any statement on the subject.

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British Army Remounts

Mr. Wedderburn asked the Financial Secretary to the War Office the number of remounts purchased from England, Scotland, Northern Ireland, and the Irish Free State, respectively, during the first six months of this year; and whether he has any information to show that the recent withdrawal of the light-horse-breeding subsidy is likely to render it more difficult in future years to obtain satisfactory Army remounts within Great Britain?

Mr. Cooper: The numbers were 624 remounts from England and Wales, five from Scotland, 389 from Northern Ireland and 109 from the Irish Free State. It is too early yet to be able to say what effect the withdrawal of the light-horse-breeding subsidy will have on the supply of remounts in future years.

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A most satisfactory report of the work of the Norfolk County Suffolk Stallion Society was given at a recent meeting of the management committee. The Secretary, Major H. Rodwell, reported that the season had been one of the most successful in the history of the Society, the membership having greatly increased. Although this season seven instead of eight stallions were travelled, 543 mares, or 60 more than in 1932, had been mated.

It was reported that there was every prospect of an increased demand from Yorkshire.

Notes and News

The Editor will be glad to receive items of professional interest for inclusion in these columns.

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DIARY OF EVENTS

Aug. 8th.—Meeting of the Editorial Committee, N.V.M.A., at 2, Verulam Buildings, Gray's Inn, W.C.1, at 4.30 p.m.

Aug. 19th.—Summer Meeting of the South-Eastern Division, N.V.M.A., at Langley Court, Beckenham.

Sept. 18th-23rd.—N.V.M.A. Congress, Llandudno.

Sept. 25th-26th.—R.C.V.S. Jubilee Memorial and Bursary Prize Examination.

Oct. 4th.—R.C.V.S. Committee Meetings.

Oct. 5th.—R.C.V.S. Registration Committee.

Oct. 6th.—R.C.V.S. Committee and Council Meetings.

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ALLOWANCES FOR THE USE OF PRIVATE MOTOR VEHICLES ON PUBLIC SERVICE

The attention of all members affected thereby is drawn to the letter on the above subject from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, which is published in this issue in the report of the Parliamentary Committee to Council, N.V.M.A. As will be noted therein, the Ministry are prepared to consider applications for increased mileage rate under certain specified conditions.

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N.V.M.A. PENSION AND FAMILY PROVISION SCHEME

It will no doubt be of interest to members of the Association to hear that the Pension and Family Provision Scheme which was adopted by the Association some time ago with the Legal and General Assurance Society, Ltd., and which is limited to members, N.V.M.A., is meeting with very satisfactory response throughout the country. A first-class service is provided by the Assurance Society in connection with the scheme and which enables a member to be provided with full information at his own convenience. Members who have not yet enquired for particulars of the valuable benefits offered by the scheme are advised to take advantage of the service provided by completing and returning the enquiry cards which have been sent to them.

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Personal

ROYAL VETERINARY COLLEGE, INSTITUTE OF ANIMAL PATHOLOGY

New Appointments

It is with pleasure that we record the appointment as from October, 1933, of Dr. F. C. Minett, as Professor of Pathology and Director of the Institute of Animal Pathology, and of Dr. R. Lovell as Senior Assistant in the Division of Bacteriology at the Institute of Animal Pathology, at the Royal Veterinary College, London.

Professor F. C. Minett

Qualifying at the London College in July, 1911, Dr. Minett obtained his B.Sc. degree in 1912.

From 1911-12 he was Junior Assistant in the Department of Pathology at Camden Town, and in the latter year he was awarded a Ministry of Agriculture Scholarship. The first year of this was held in the Department of Pathology, during which Dr. Minett was occupied with work on Johne's disease and contagious abortion, and the second year in study at the Ministry of Agriculture Laboratories at Alfort (Seine) and at the Pasteur Institute.

From 1914-1924, he served with the R.A.V.C., and gained the M.B.E. During this period he published two papers, one—on the classification of diphtheria—during the latter part of the War, when he had been recalled to Aldershot to supervise the production of mallein, and, later, a second—in connection with the cultivation of the rinderpest virus—whilst he was stationed in Egypt from 1921 to 1924.

In 1924, Dr. Minett joined the staff of the Foot-and-Mouth Disease Committee at Weybridge, where he contributed largely to their periodic progress reports, and also contributed articles to the *Journal of Comparative Pathology* on the differentiation of the various types of virus, some of them in association with the late Sir Stewart Stockman. For a paper dealing with foot-and-mouth disease the subject of this note gained his Doctorate of Science of London University, in 1927.

In 1927, he was appointed Director of the Research Institute in Animal Pathology of the Royal Veterinary College, an honour to which has now been added that of the chair of Pathology. Whilst Director of the Institute he has been engaged with his collaborators in a series of studies on mastitis, which have thrown much light on the nature of the disease and on the possibility of their control; and has still found time to devote to work on Johne's disease and bovine contagious abortion.

It is characteristic of him that whilst engaged on burdensome problems of research he has been ready to serve on numerous committees—which include those of the Agricultural Research Council on Johne's disease, on bovine contagious abortion, and on poultry diseases—and has contributed various papers to international and other congresses. He is also a member of the Veterinary Council of the People's League of Health, and has been Secretary of the Comparative Section of the Royal Society of Medicine.

Dr. Minett has prepared himself for what is one of the most responsible positions our profession has to offer. Just at all times, he has no use for the mere theorist or the charlatan. His writings, whilst avoiding the pedantic, are models of careful preparation and preciseness. He is efficient always, and his energy and initiative conduce to an organising ability which must do much to further the destiny of the department he controls, and of the profession he has at heart.

We wish him success.

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Dr. R. Lovell

Dr. Lovell is at present lecturer in the Division of Bacteriology and Immunology, at The London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. He qualified M.R.C.V.S. from the London College in 1923, and after a short period in practice took the D.V.S.M. at Manchester, in 1925. He was appointed Demonstrator in Bacteriology in the Department of Bacteriology and Preventive Medicine, University of Manchester, in 1925, which post he held till 1927, when he was appointed Research Assistant at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. In 1929, he was raised to his present position of lecturer.

During these appointments, Dr. Lovell has taught both veterinary and medical post-graduate students for the courses preparatory for the D.V.S.M., D.P.H., Diploma of Bacteriology (Dip. Bact.) both in the University of Manchester and in the University of London. Besides his teaching experience, Dr. Lovell has carried out much original research in problems of interest to veterinary and human medicine. In 1928, he was awarded the research degree of M.Sc. in the University of Manchester, and in 1932 the Ph.D. (London) in the Faculty of Medicine.

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Inspectorship Appointment. — Mr. William Grant, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M., of Aberdeen, has been appointed Assistant Veterinary Inspector to the Corporation of Birmingham, to fill the post vacated by Mr. A. E. Comer, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M., who has recently been appointed Assistant Veterinary Inspector to the Cheshire County Council.

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Mr. R. J. Roe, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M., Chief Veterinary Officer, Cyprus, is home on leave at "Hollymount," Roscrea, Co. Tipperary, I.F.S.

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R.C.V.S. OBITUARY

Simpson, John Richard, High Skellgate, Ripon, Yorks. Graduated New Edinburgh, April 14th, 1880. Died July 28th, 1933, aged 76 years.

Watt, William, Crieff, Perthshire. Graduated Glasgow, April 28th, 1881. Died July 24th, 1933; aged 73 years,

The Late Mr. W. Watt, M.R.C.V.S.

The *Glasgow Herald* describes the late Mr. Watt as probably one of the oldest practising veterinary surgeons in Scotland. A son of the late ex-Bailie Watt, Stirling, he was born in that town over 70 years ago and went to practice in Crieff about 52 years ago. For a few years he was an active member of the Crieff Town Council. His leisure, however, was devoted to horticulture, and he was a successful exhibitor at local shows, particularly of fruit.

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VETERINARIAN'S LOSS OF DANGEROUS DRUGS

"After a week's search the Salisbury City Police have not been able to solve the mysterious disappearance of a quantity of dangerous drugs from a cupboard in the surgery of Mr. H. C. Rockett, veterinary surgeon, of Endless Street," says the *Salisbury Times* of July 21st. "The drugs were first missed on Friday morning by Mr. Davis, who assists Mr. Rockett in his practice. Upon going to the cupboard in the surgery he found that the contents were arranged in a different order than was usual, and a search revealed the loss. The police were immediately sent for, and a search was at once instituted.

The drugs missing consist of cocaine, tablets of half-grain strength morphine, apomorphine, eserine, arecoline, strychnine and colloidal manganese.

The police immediately notified all schools of the loss, and appealed to teachers to notify any suspicion concerning children under their charge. Parents in the vicinity were also warned.

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STUDY OF TROPICAL DISEASES

Proposed Important Amalgamation

Proposals for the amalgamation of the Ross Institute and Hospital for Tropical Diseases with the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine are contained in a memorandum issued by Sir Charles Campbell McLeod, chairman of the Ross Institute. The memorandum emphasises the advantages to both bodies and to the future of tropical hygiene of such an amalgamation.

The memory of Ross, the memorandum states, will be carefully preserved in the amalgamation. "On the front of the school," it is added, "the name of Ross has been carved among the immortals of hygiene and tropical medicine, as a reminder for all time in the capital of the Empire of the great work which he did for the Empire and for humanity." There will be established within the school, as a permanent memorial to Sir Ronald Ross, a department to be known by the name of the "Ross Institute of Tropical Hygiene"; to ensure the continuation of the policy of the institute, two members of the institute will be placed on the Court of Governors, and one on the Board of Management of the school; for the administration of the department called the Ross Institute of Tropical Hygiene, a special standing committee will be created, composed of members of the Board of Management, the Dean, and additional members having relevant experience.

The appointment of Director of Tropical Hygiene at the School, which has been vacant since the death of Sir Andrew Balfour, will be filled by Sir Malcolm Watson, and the new department named the Ross Institute of Tropical Hygiene. The India branch of the Ross Institute will become an intrinsic part of the amalgamated body, and Dr. G. C. Ramsay will continue as Principal of the branch. The Industrial Advisory Committee will also be continued under the chairmanship of Mr. G. H. Masefield, and Major Lockwood Stevens, organising secretary of the Institute, will join the school in a similar capacity.

School of Tropical Medicine

Sir Austen Chamberlain, Chairman of the Court of Governors of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, has received from Mr. W. J. Courtauld a munificent gift for the tropical side of the work of the school. In recognition of this gift the Senate of the University of London have conferred upon Professor R. T. Leiper the title of "William Julien Courtauld Professor of Helminthology."

Among other donations to the school Sir Austen Chamberlain gratefully acknowledges a subscription of £50 a year for seven years from the Alliance Assurance Company in recognition of the interest of life assurance companies in the school's programme of study and research in hygiene and tropical medicine, which has already been substantially assisted by the endowment of the Chair of Public Health by the Prudential Assurance Company.

VETERINARY INSPECTION NEWS

Essex County Council are to appoint a full-time veterinary officer for the inspection of dairy herds in the county at a salary of £700 a year, rising to £1,000.

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At a meeting of the Agricultural Committee of the Dorsetshire County Council, held on July 17th, a report was received from the Diseases of Animals' Sub-Committee stating that they had again considered the appointment of a veterinary inspector to carry out the duties under the Diseases of Animals Acts (including the Tuberculosis Order, 1925) and to undertake the systematic inspection of all dairy herds throughout the county.

They had decided to postpone the matter until the next meeting, when it was thought more information would be available with regard to the milk marketing scheme.

A member asked for an assurance that the matter would be decided soon. It was more than three months since it was first brought up, he said, and the position was getting worse.

The Chairman said there was no doubt that it would be brought to a head when the details of the milk marketing scheme were received.

Another member observed that under the milk marketing scheme there was a quality bonus, but one of the conditions was that herds had passed a veterinary inspection at stated intervals. Dorset should therefore make this appointment to be in line with other counties.

The Chairman said there were different opinions on who should carry out the inspections. Some people favoured the county councils and others the Ministry of Agriculture. The question was whether the Agricultural Committee should bear the whole cost, whether the Ministry should help to pay, or whether the milk producers should bear it.

It was a difficult question for a county with a small rateable value. In Yorkshire the cost of the service was ¼d. in the £, and it was the same in Surrey. In Dorset he did not think it cost less than 1d. in the £.

The opinion was expressed that in a county like Dorset it would be better to have a State Veterinary Service. Could they not, it was asked, approach the Ministries of Agriculture and Health, through the County Councils' Association?

The report of the Diseases of Animals' Sub-Committee was adopted.

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Revision has been made of the fees and travelling expenses of veterinary inspectors under the Diseases of Animals Committee of Cornwall County Council, and acceptance has been made of an offer by the inspectors to reduce the road travelling allowance from 6d. to 5d. per mile, and as a temporary measure to accept a 5 per cent. cut in the fees.

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BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION MEETING

(*Continued from p.* 744.)

Significance of Vitamins

Addressing the section of Diseases of Children, at the one hundred and first Annual Conference of the British Medical Association recently held at Dublin, Dr. Leslie Harris, who spoke on "The Significance of Vitamins in Practical Experience," said that correct nutrition could not be left to instinct, or to the use of "natural unspoilt foods," or to a varied diet, or to a process of free selection. Recent official reports showed that no less than 80 to 90 per cent. of the elementary school population in London gave evidence of having had some

degree of rickets, notwithstanding the decreasing severity of the disease as now met with.

Statistical data had been collected to show that under our climatic conditions rickets was almost inevitable if special prophylactic measures are not taken, no common foodstuff containing sufficiently large amounts of the anti-rickets vitamin. Cod-liver oil had proved a sterling remedy in the past, but had the disadvantage that it might be impracticable to give enough to ensure full protection in every case. Experience showed that the most certain remedy was irradiated ergosterol. From a practical standpoint, however, it was sometimes an advantage to use a food (for example, a proprietary dried milk preparation) in which the requisite quantity of irradiated ergosterol had already been incorporated by the manufacturers. Ultra-violet therapy had also given good results, but it presented practical difficulties in the administrative direction for "wholesale" prophylaxis.

For curative treatment irradiated ergosterol was undoubtedly the method of choice; it could easily be given at a sufficiently high and precisely standardised level. When administering irradiated ergosterol, however, it was essential to adhere strictly to the correct dose, since overdosage gave rise to hypervitaminosis.

Vitamin A could not be regarded as a general anti-infective agent. Although we had no evidence of any widespread deficiency of it in this country in any way comparable to that of vitamin D, it was still advisable to ensure that diets were adequately provided with it. The offspring received but a moderate amount pre-natally and in the milk. The effect of extra vitamin B added to the infant's diet required further study. There was no compelling evidence to support the suggestion that the prevalence of constipation and stasis was due to lack of this factor.

It was essential that all infants should be dosed with adequate vitamin C (as orange juice). This was destroyed to a greater or less extent during pasteurisation of milk, which, however, was never a very active source. Adequate nutrition was not possible for certain sections of the community under existing economic conditions; and much scientific knowledge of nutrition already won failed to gain sufficiently wide recognition or practical application.

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Irradiation Therapy in Malignant Disease

The Combined Section of Radiology and Surgery discussed "Irradiation Therapy in the Treatment of Malignant Disease." Dr. Pearce Gould said that evidence, so far, was lacking that either radium or X-rays were more than local remedies. It would appear that anatomical and pathological conditions imposed much the same limitations upon their usefulness as they did upon that of surgery. Dr. Levitt discussed the methods of treatment by radiation, and expressed the opinion that some combination of surgery and radiology might give better results than either of these alone. Dr. Oliver Chance said that any consideration of radium therapy must begin with the all-important fact that gamma-rays act on the dividing cell and not on the resting one.

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MILK-BORNE DISEASES AS AFFECTING CHILDREN

Consideration of milk-borne diseases as affecting children occupied the attention of the main session of the International Paediatric Congress at the British Medical Association's headquarters on July 21st. Papers were contributed by delegates from different countries and a wide discussion ensued. It was generally agreed that protective measures, as far as children were concerned, consisted in breast feeding, satisfactory control so that milk came from healthy animals and was not afterwards infected with disease organisms, the destruction of infectious organisms by heating the milk, and striving after a method of handling which would not impair the milk.

Dr. Alfred Pattersson, of Stockholm, suggested that any diminution in the nutritive value of milk caused by heating could be restored by an addition of a small amount of fruit juice containing vitamin C.

Professor G. B. Allaria, of Turin, said there was always a debatable question between those who asserted the necessity of giving children raw milk and those who upheld the necessity of providing for the bacterial purifying of the milk, even at the expense of its vital properties. In the present state of the dairy industry in most countries the latter was the more important, as the bacterial danger was the more serious.

This view was supported by Professor P. Lereboullet, of Paris, who, while urging a vigorous initiative to improve general conditions of milk production and sales in all countries, so that a safe milk for all children should be made available, contended that in the absence of such an elaborate and controlled organisation as would be necessary, the boiling of milk prior to consumption remained the sole measure which could be taken for protecting children from the dangers of this food.

Dr. J. M. Hamill, London, said that about 7 per cent. of the milk samples taken in various towns in the country contained tubercle bacilli. Two thousand deaths, mostly of children, occurred annually in this country from bovine tuberculosis, and there were a large number of cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis of bovine origin which did not die from the disease, but they were so affected that they might be sufferers throughout life. There was little likelihood within a reasonable time that we should be able to obtain a tubercle-free raw milk supply. It would therefore be necessary to rely upon efficient pasteurisation for a pure milk supply. But in addition to that, all efforts should be made to reduce disease in cattle. Pasteurisation must be efficient, and such slight differences as might exist between raw and pasteurised milk were in ordinary circumstances non-appreciable as far as nutrition was concerned. In any case, that would be outweighed by the immense advantage of safety.

Dr. Wilbert Davison, U.S.A., suggested that there was just as much possibility of infection of milk in the home, from mothers' fingers or flies' legs, as in the dairy. The only safe sterile milk, which remained sterile, was evaporated milk unsweetened, which, with the addition of an equal quantity of water and a small amount of lactic acid, provided a perfectly pure milk even cheaper than raw milk.

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ARMY VETERINARY SERVICE

London Gazette—War Office—Territorial Army

July 28th.—Captain W. H. Wortley, from the T.A. Res. of Off., to be Captain (July 22nd).

Territorial Army Reserve of Officers

Captain F. J. Mullane from Active List, to be Captain (July 22nd).

India: Commands and Staff

The following officers have vacated appointments in India: Comdts.—Army Vet. Sch: Major (Bt. Lt.-Col.) T. E. Burridge, R.A.V.C. (July 7th, 1932) (substituted for the notifns. in the *Gazettes* of June 10th, 1932, and January 13); Major C. M. Stewart, R.A.V.C. (March 14th).

D.A.D.V.S.: Major G. F. Steevenson, R.A.V.C. (February 28th).

Comdts.—Army Vet. Sch.: Major J. R. Hodgkins, D.S.O., F.R.C.V.S., R.A.V.C. (July 7th, 1932). (Substituted for the notifns. in the *Gazettes* of June 10th, 1932, and January 13); Major H. Stephenson, R.A.V.C. (March 14).

Regular Army

August 1st.—Major J. Harrison retires on ret. pay (August 1st).

Regular Army Reserve of Officers

August 1st.—Major J. Harrison (ret. pay), to be Major (August 1st) with sen., August 2, 1919.

Correspondence

Letters to the Editor should reach the Office not later than by the first post on Tuesday morning for insertion in following Saturday's issue.

All correspondence must bear the name and address of the contributor for publication.

The Editor does not hold himself responsible for the opinions of his correspondents.

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REPORT OF THE REORGANISATION COMMISSION FOR MILK

To the Editor of the Veterinary Record

Sir,—May I, in the intervals left between general practice and part-time inspections, together with a little meat inspection, encroach upon your valuable space again gently to criticise parts of the report of the united Divisions on the Report of the Reorganisation Commission for milk—and also, perhaps rather diffidently, to instruct the "specialist," that is, the whole-time officer, as to how "Grade A" milk has to be produced, and gently to meander through the rest of the report?

I will take, in the first instance, Mr. Bywater's remark that "Graded milks had not helped. Tubercle bacilli had been too frequently discovered in 'Grade A' milk, and even higher grades."

Mr. Bywater forgets or ignores the conditions laid down for the production of "Grade A" milk: "*Examination* means a *clinical* examination carried out by a veterinary surgeon nominated by the licensing authority *with the concurrence of the Minister.*"

The safeguards *re* tuberculosis in "Grade A" milk are in part III of the 3rd Schedule to the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1923: "(1) No animal which, to the knowledge of the owner of the herd, has at any time been tested with tuberculin and has reacted to the test shall form part of, or be added to the herd," and (4) "If at any time it is shown to the satisfaction of the licensing authority that tubercle bacillus is contained in milk, the producer shall take all necessary steps to ascertain which animals are diseased and to remove them from the herd and shall inform the licensing authority how such animals have been disposed of." (That, of course, was before the Tuberculosis Order came into being. The cows *now* would be valued and slaughtered by the local authority.)

Can Mr. Bywater, as a specialist (*i.e.*, a whole-time man) undertake the *clinical* examination of a herd of cows, where 30 per cent. would react if tested, and say (after his *clinical* examination, and taking the tuberculous ones, *if he found any*) that he would find no tubercle bacilli in a bulk sample of the milk?

Is this work so difficult and so specialised that it can only be carried out by a specialist?

This is where I meander somewhat. This *specialist*, by the way, is created by the simple method of a county council advertising for veterinary surgeons to fill posts for the carrying out of the Tuberculosis and Milk and Dairies Orders, and appointing to a whole-time job certain of the applicants, *at the lowest salary the applicants are allowed to accept.* (N.B. This is in italic as I ask a question at the end of this letter.) The appointed veterinary surgeon at once becomes a specialist. *It is not the man who becomes a specialist, but the appointment to a whole-time job which makes him one.*

Now to resume. The designation "Grade A" was never intended to produce milk free from tubercle bacilli, but it was thought that the conditions laid down for this designation, and an enhanced price for the milk, might lead farmers to produce higher grades. This failed, and the production of cleaner milk, or, shall I say, of milk containing fewer tubercle bacilli, was initiated by the Tuberculosis Order and the Milk and Dairies Order, 1925.

Since then, where inspections under these Orders have been instituted by the local authority, all the farms in the local authority's jurisdiction *have been producing "Grade A" milk*—with this exception—that examinations for the 200,000 bacteria per c.c. and no coliform bacilli in 1/100 part of a c.c. are not carried out.

Now we come to the second of the assertions—"and higher grades."

Here let me quote from Mr. Begg's report for 1932. "The reactor average (in 48 tuberculin tested herds) is 1·8 *per herd per annum.*" This shows that even where regular tuberculin testing is carried out the tubercle bacilli will still show up annually in the herds tested. I wonder if Mr. Bywater could equal or better this!

I have the greatest admiration for Mr. Begg. He does not pose as a specialist (although he is one), nor as an eliminator, to the last decimal point, of the tuberculous cow, but, like the part-time man, does his best to eliminate the tuberculous cow and to keep his milk as clean as possible under the circumstances allowed him. What are the circumstances? It is no doubt due to Mr. Begg's teaching that 48 herds under his administration are producing "Certified" milk, but this is possible because the Scottish Board allow the tuberculin test to be carried out at practically no cost to the producer. Could not this be equally well done by part-time inspectors and private practitioners if the expense of clearing these herds was not prohibitive? Very few milk producers can afford to pay the licence fee demanded and comply with the restrictions imposed, and the cost of the test twice a year. That is where Colonel Brittlebank is so very right when he says that the task of clearing up the milk supply is long and arduous.

Mr. Bywater's assertion that "the part-time man had been judged on graded milks, for which he alone was responsible," shows that he cannot be conversant with the Milk (Special Designations) Order as to how "Grade A" milk *has* to be produced, and, *if* the part-time man *has* been judged on this count then the M.Os.H. are "hitting below the belt" in their insensate condemnation of a

part-time veterinary health service—and they judge, not on instructions laid down by the Ministry of Health, but on their fear of losing control in the production of clean milk.

Do the sanitary authorities, through their sanitary inspectors, who are practically satellites of the M.O.H., but taught in some measure by veterinary surgeons, do their duty in the production of clean milk? Do they see that cow-houses, cows, milkers and utensils are in a sanitary condition? Do they inspect as often and as thoroughly as veterinary inspectors? I leave that as an open question.

Although the production of clean milk has improved during the last few years there are thousands of byres, cows and human beings so insanitary that, under no stretch of imagination, could clean milk be produced in or by them. It is not "what the M.O.H. thinks of the safeguard offered by the private practitioner" but the conditions laid down by the Ministry of Health which are responsible for the tubercle bacilli found in "Grade A" milk.

Mr. Bywater, being so conscious of his inability to offer any convincing argument in favour of a whole-time service, calls in his friend Mr. Bannington who, with his prejudiced outlook on all things "part-time," *tries* to do so by insinuating that "the duties of a veterinary officer are becoming sufficiently peculiar and important to require an officer specially skilled" (by advertisement?) "in their performance, and educated in the administrative technique involved. This can only be secured by whole-time appointments." (This also by advertisement,)

As to Mr. Bywater's final paragraph—he admits that "it would be calamitous for some country practitioners—but—when an *efficient* service was established would it not bring more work to the veterinary profession as a whole?" Would it? Would meat inspection (some of us are doing this now), work under the Diseases of Animals Acts (we are also doing this at the present time and have done it for years), and (Mr. Editor, do please give this the benefit of your biggest type) *work under the Fertilizer and Foodstuffs Act*?—he is not only going to oust the general practitioner, but the county analyst as well—give more work to the general practitioner?

I think Mr. Bywater will find that, whenever the whole-time gentlemen try to get whole-time meat inspection, etc., they will be in exactly the same position as that in which they are trying to put the part-time inspector. They will be "up against" a strongly organised body of sanitary inspectors, and their patrons and ardent supporters, *viz.*, the M.Os.H., and these gentlemen will defend their present preserves more strongly than we do ours.

For Professor Wright's information, all milk samples are sent to a pathological department. I agree with Captain Townson that co-operation with the Medical Profession is not really necessary. I also agree with Captain Dunlop Martin that the many members of the Medical Profession are hopelessly ignorant in the matter of clean milk production—but not that we should teach them.

As to the lack of knowledge of the M.Os.H. and sanitary inspectors as regards animal diseases (as apart from milk production) let me give an illustration. One day I was asked to attend at a slaughterhouse to give an opinion as to some pig carcasses. The sanitary inspector had condemned these as being affected by swine fever. On my arrival I found the sanitary inspector, the M.O.H. and several police officers in attendance. Forms were ready to be served, and several officials had gone off post haste to examine the remainder of the pigs on the farmer's premises. My verdict was "swine erysipelas."

Let me give another instance, *re* "clean milk" this time. Some years ago I was inspecting at a certain farm. The byre was filthy, the cows were filthy and the men were filthy, and by the time I had got round some 30 cows I was filthy, too. I got the sanitary inspector to see to this—he reported to his authority and proceedings were taken, and the owner fined something like 5*s. and costs*. So much for that.

I am now going to turn to to-day's *Veterinary Record* and will answer Mr. A. B. Kerr's letter, so far as he refers to me.

A simple matter of arithmetic will do. During *part-time* service £1,000 a year was spent on the Milk and Dairies Order—Mr. Kerr says there has *never* been any inspection. On what was the £1,000 spent—reports of the presence of tubercle bacilli in bulk samples? If so, that implies, or should imply, *herd inspection*.

Now for that little sum. I am not good at figures, but this is how it seems to me:—

Five Divisional Veterinary Officers at £500 = £2,500.

£3,250 (the whole cost) – £2,500 = £750.

This points to the Chief Veterinary Officer receiving £700 p.a. As the £3,250 includes all travelling expenses, then, as I pointed out months ago, expenses are £50 for boots for the veterinary officers. "*Q.E.D.*," as our old friend Euclid would say.

I really think I ought to have an apology from Mr. Kerr, as I think the analysis of the figures proves that his store of superlative adjectives was wasted.

May I ask one pertinent question?

If my figures are correct—they are taken from the report of the Milk and Dairies Committee of the Cheshire County Council (*Evening Sentinel*, February 16th, 1933), then why is it that Mr. Kerr has been allowed to accept some £700 p.a. for the post of C.V.O. for a dairy county such as Cheshire, when would-be officers are warned that £350 is not an adequate salary for whole-time inspectors for Wiltshire?

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
J. W. Hall Masheter.

Ruddle House,
Newnham-on-Severn.
July 29th, 1933.

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VETERINARY INSPECTION IN CHESHIRE

To the Editor of the Veterinary Record

Sir,—Mr. Kerr's letter making corrections in the remarks of Captain Townson and the writings of Mr. Hall Masheter, makes curious reading.

All reported matter on the discussions (as published in the *Record*) at the Cheshire County Council left the impression that the 21 part-time inspectors were carrying out the inspection as laid down in the Milk and Dairies Order.

According to Mr. Kerr that was not so.

There has apparently been a great dereliction of duty on the part of the 21 inspectors in not bringing before their county council the fact that they were not carrying out this work at all but only the complementary Tuberculosis Order, 1925—and from all that I have seen in the public press, there has been no real effort made by them on their own behalf.

However, the real question raised by Captain Townson is: Can five veterinary surgeons inspect the whole of the dairy cows in Cheshire sufficiently often, so that tuberculous milk can be eliminated from these herds, and thus give a direct

negative answer to the indictment of the Medical Profession that the incidence of tuberculosis in milk shows no abatement?

Can these five men inspect these cattle so that Dr. Savage, M.O.H., Somerset, or any other M.O.H., will be unable to say that herds that have been inspected and pronounced correct were biologically proved to be supplying tuberculous milk?

Can these five men inspect these cattle so that Lord Moynihan and Dr. Nathan Raw will be unable to continue their campaign for the pasteurisation of all milk?

These are the real questions, and our profession has to provide a practical and true answer or for ever to hold its peace.

Will Mr. Kerr or anyone else give their knowledge and experience in a helpful manner and, *Suaviter in modo,* extend the principles of *Vis unita fortior*?

Yours, etc.,
J. Campbell Hill.

Als Street,
Llanelly.
July 29th, 1933.

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INTRADERMAL TUBERCULIN TEST

To the Editor of the Veterinary Record

Sir,—The writer would like to suggest that if injections were made at three points along the side of the neck (0·1 c.c. of concentrated tuberculin being injected at each point), instead of an injection at one point, there would be fewer doubtful and incorrect interpretations of the test. This conclusion has been arrived at after considerable experience of the method, the adoption of which obviously must lessen the possibility of error. So easy has it become to give a definite opinion when the reactions at the three points have been compared, that it has been found rarely necessary, except for official reasons, to use the double injection.

It must be considered that, however good a particular test may be, it is only consistent with thoroughness to have some sort of "control" when possible, the human factor not being infallible. Tuberculin testing has become of the utmost importance, not the least concerned being the owners of the animals which are subjected to the test; therefore our findings—positive or negative—should, in many cases, be controlled.

It is admitted that there are other means of doing this, but "in the field" the method suggested appears to be suitable for use in the first place.

The double intradermal test is, in the writer's opinion, an excellent one; but it must be well recognised that there are cases which have been subjected to the test and classified as "doubtful" reactors, some of which at least might have been classified otherwise if control precautions had been taken.

A great deal depends upon the reliability of the test. Let us not stand still, even at this time, but let us convince all concerned that we can be relied upon to test for tuberculosis satisfactorily.

Yours truly,
Oscar Stinson.

Charnwood,
Appleby,
Westmorland.
July 31st, 1933.

P.S.—A specified controlled tuberculin test would not be out of place, particularly if it could be done without increasing the number of visits.
O. S.

THE "BURDIZZO" METHOD OF CASTRATION

To the Editor of the Veterinary Record

Sir,—In reply to Mr. Paul Crosfield's letter in the *Record* of 22nd inst., I would say that my experience of Burdizzo castration has been almost solely limited to bovines, and in these, if he follows the method detailed below, he will find it most satisfactory.

It is best to wait until animals are over three months old before operating.

Have a man take a short grip of the subject either by halter or lower jaw—this man may, in the case of a young calf, also hold the tail (otherwise another has this honour, at the same time helping to steady the subject), and he stands at the near side of the calf with the off-side of the calf against a wall. The veterinary surgeon then pulls the right testicle well down and, with the left hand, presses the cord against the outside of the scrotum. An assistant standing on the right side of the veterinary surgeon now slides the jaws of the Burdizzo over the cord and proceeds to close the instrument; meantime the veterinary surgeon still retains the cord in position and shouts "right" immediately the instrument grips the cord, thus indicating that the assistant is to close the instrument if all *is* in order. The instrument is allowed to remain closed over the cord for a generous minute—this is most important—and then removed. The assistant now comes to the left side of the veterinary surgeon, whilst the subject remains in the same position as formerly. The veterinary surgeon pulls down the left testicle, pushes it to the outside of the scrotum, "fixes" it between fingers and thumb, this time using the right hand, and the instrument is applied and operation continued as before.

(During closure of the instrument, the veterinary surgeon may require, in the case of a large animal, both hands to keep the cord in position, but in any case does not handle the instrument at all during the operation, as he is solely concerned with *keeping the cord in position.*)

It is not uncommon for part of the skin of the leg to be included when closing the instrument, and, if this should happen, it should be corrected, as it will be readily understood that this may prevent the instrument closing properly and so result in an unsuccessful operation.

I invariably advise clients to examine all stock castrated by Burdizzo about two months after date of operation. It is *rare,* however, for re-operation to be necessary.

I should add that even large and/or unruly animals should be castrated *standing* whenever at all possible, and if both veterinary surgeon and assistant stand close to the subject they will not receive anything worse than an occasional rattle across the knuckles or shins.

Yours faithfully,
H. M. Wilson, m.r.c.v.s.

134, Bonnygate,
Cupar-Fife.
July 24th, 1933.

The Editor acknowledges, with thanks, the receipt of the following:—

Communications from Major R. Hayes (Sherburn-in-Elmet), Messrs. P. J. Howard (Ennis, Co. Clare), R. R. Moodie (Rothesay), W. A. Pool (Weybridge), and H. Taylor (Hayward's Heath).

Professor S. H. GAIGER, F.R.C.V.S.
President, Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, 1933-34.